RG104 Entry 235
Volume 081

November 12, 1896 – February 25, 1897
Letters Sent from Mint Headquarters

Fair copies of letters and telegrams sent from U.S. Mint headquarters to various official and individual recipients.

Some of these letters duplicate those of Entry 1, and others are responses to letters in those boxes or in Entry 229 “Letters Received.”

RG104 E-235 V

RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE MINT

Records of the Bureau of the Mint
Correspondence

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Nov. 2, 1896

Leuecke & Buechner
Books ordered for 1897.
Letter found Jany 19, 1897.

November 12, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	Del. 100 ,	1.00
	Total ,	$1.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Half Dollars	Del. 64 ,	1.00
	Total ,	$1.00

November 12, 1896.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Under date of October eighth, you forwarded to this Bureau an estimate of the cost of coining one million ounces of pure silver into standard silver dollars. The same was returned to you under date of the 13th ultimo, with the request that you revise the same, and give your estimate in detail. As yet no reply has been received from you.

I will thank you to give this matter

your immediate attention, as I desire the figures to use in my forthcoming annual report.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 12, 1896.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram Confirmed

Forward statement showing amount of gold coin received in exchange for standard dollars and subsidiary silver coin respectively during the fiscal year ended June thirtieth, 1896.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

November 12, 1896.

J. R. Mace, Statistician,
#55 Franklin Street,
Boston, Mass.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 26th ultimo, I take pleasure in enclosing herewith, tables showing the production of gold and silver in the United States, by States and Territories, in fine ounces and coining value, from 1885 to 1895, inclusive, also Treasury Circular No. 123 and refer

you to page 24 of the same.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 12, 1896.

Quartermaster, U. S. Army,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to request that you will receive from Henry Troemner, of 710 Market Street, Philadelphia, a bullion balance (which will be properly boxed) for shipment to the United States Assay Office at Boise, Idaho.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 12, 1896.

Carl G. Rasmus, Esq.,
United States Mortgage & Trust Co.,
#39 Cedar Street, New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 5th instant, I take pleasure in enclosing tables showing the production of gold and silver in the United States, by States and Territories, in fine ounces and coining value, from 1886 to 1895, inclusive.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 12, 1896.

James B. Thompson, Esq.,
Rockville, Indiana.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that the only bullion now purchased by the Government is the small amount contained in gold deposits and mutilated and uncurrent silver coins of the United States, which aggregates about 230,000 ounces per annum, and is used in the manufacture of subsidiary silver coin.

Silver dollars are now being coined from bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, commonly known as the "Sherman Act."

The Act of November 1st, 1893, repealed only the purchasing clause of that of July 14th 1890, but did not prohibit the coinage of the bullion then on hand, which under the present law can be used only in the coinage of silver dollars. The greater part of the amount of subsidiary coins made is from bullion resulting from the melting of worn and uncurrent coins transferred from the Treasury for recoinage.

I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would call your attention to pages 60-61 of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 12, 1896.

Henry Troemner, Esq.,
#710 Market Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:- I have this day requested the Quartermaster

of the United States Army in your City to receive from you the bullion balance (properly boxed) for shipment to the U. S. Assay Office at Boise, Idaho. When you have delivered the balance and obtained his receipt you will forward your account, receipted in duplicate to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 12, 1896.

Messrs. Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict,
Cor. 8th and F. Streets, N.W.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find check for 50¢ in payment of your bill for repairs to Typewriter belonging to this Bureau.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

November 13th 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department,

Sir:

I transmitted herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Silver Bullion accounts of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia for the month ending October 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Accounts sent Nov. 9, 1896.
" recd " 10, 1896.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:- over.

+ + Salaries, Wages and Contingent
Expense accounts + Assayers in charge
+ U. S. Assay Offices at Charlotte and St. Louis
+ months + September 30, 1896 + +
St. Louis accounts sent Oct. 5, 1896.
" " " recd " 7, 1896.
Charlotte " sent Oct. 6, 1896.
" " recd " 8, 1896.

November 13, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Silver Bullion accounts for the month ending October 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted, to the following:-

W. E. Andrew, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent
Expense + month + September 30, 1896 + +

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent
Expense + month + September 30, 1896 + +

November 13, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	,	Del. 45	, 10.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 234	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 235	, .20
2 S. S. Dollars	,	" 236	, 2.00
Total	,		, $12.70

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 101	, 1.00
Total	,		, $1.00.

November 13, 1896.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have again to impose on your good nature. I am very anxious to obtain a copy of the original draught of the Bill providing for the revision of the Coinage Laws, which was prepared by Mr. Knox in December 1869, and sent to the Mint officers for criticism

and that they might suggest amendments. I enclose herewith copy of the correspondence, and if you will refer to the letter of Mr. Knox, dated June 25th 1870, second paragraph, you will find the following:

"In the month of December last, in accordance with your request, a rough draught of a Bill was prepared, which contained in a concise form nearly all the legislation now in force upon these subjects. This was printed, interspersed with interrogations and additional sections, for the purpose of calling forth an expression of opinion from those persons who were known to be intelligent upon such subjects."

I have searched the Department, high and low, to obtain a copy of this draught, but so far without success. I learn from Mr. George Wood, of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, that when Mr. Knox left here he had all of his private correspondence in relation to the revision of the Coinage Laws packed and sent to New York.

As a last effort to obtain a copy of the original draught, and not knowing the address of Mrs. Knox, I would like to have you see Mr. Keyser, a nephew of Mr. Knox, now with the National Bank of the Republic, New York, and see if it is not possible through him, to have a search made of Mr. Knox's papers and if possible to find a copy of the original draught of the Bill as prepared by him.

It is my intention to publish in the report for the fiscal year ended June 30th 1896, all the correspondence and information I can obtain leading to the passage of the Act of 1873, and without this original draught

it would be incomplete.

I will thank you in replying to return the enclosed copy of the correspondence published, as it is the only copy I have.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 13, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending October 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

November 13, 1896.

Rev. William J. Warren,
Federal, Athens Co., Ohio.

Sir:

Your letter of the 11th instant received, and I have the honor to submit the following in reply:

The table, as published in "Money & Prices" on pages 244-5 includes the total coinage of all denominations of both gold and silver, and if you will take Department Circular No. 123, and add the several denominations of silver coin for any given year, from 1841 to 1895, it will give you

the total coinage as enumerated in "Money and Prices". For instance, the coinage of silver in 1853, by denominations was as follows:

Silver dollars	$ 46,110.00
Half-dollars	2,430,354.00
Quarter dollars	4,146,555.00
Dimes	1,327,301.00
Half dimes	785,251.00
Three cent pieces	342,000.00
Total	$9,077,571.00

As further proof, take the silver coinage of 1873, which was as follows:

Trade dollars	$ 225,000.00
Standard silver dollars	296,600.00
Half dollars	1,593,780.00
Quarter dollars	414,190.50
Dimes	443,329.10
Half-dimes	51,890.00
Three cent pieces	18.00
Total	$ 4,024,747.60

The coinage of the silver half dime and three cent piece was not discontinued until 1873.

I have sent you by today's mail a copy of the Annual Report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1895.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 13, 1896.

W. J. Fern, Esq.,
Tunnell Hill, Ills.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, you are respectfully informed that the stamp

of the Government on a coin simply certifies to its weight and fineness, and adds nothing to its value.

The gold coins of the United States exported to foreign countries are received by weight, and their value depends entirely upon the amount they would coin in the coins of the country to which exported.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 13, 1896.

William W. Hill, Esq.,
Montgomery, Alabama.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Prussian States did not demonetize gold in 1857 nor at any time.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 13, 1896.

W. A. McDaniel, Esq.,
Kings Creek, South Carolina.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that any deposit of gold bullion of less value than one hundred dollars ($100.) can be lawfully refused by the Mints and Assay Offices, but I have no doubt if you were to send by registered mail the amount of gold you have, to

either the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C., or to the Mint at Philadelphia, that the value of the same would be returned to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 13, 1896.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Gentlemen:

Referring to your account for 116 World's Fair Medals I notice that the charge at the rate of three dollars ($3.00) a piece for the same. The contract for which the original medals were struck was about ninety-three cents per piece.

I will thank you for an explanation of the difference in the rates charged.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 13, 1896.

James W. Whittaker, Esq.,
North Conway, New Hampshire.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are made at the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, at a charge of three dollars for each assay. Should you decide to have an assay made, you can forward sample of your ore to Assayer in Charge of that Institution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director of Mint.

November 14, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Silver Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, La. for the month ending October 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Nov. 5, 1896.
" recd " 11, 1896.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:
+ + + Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery Expense + Superintendent + U. S. Mint at Carson + Month + Oct. 31, 1896 +
Accounts sent Nov. 8, 1896.
" recd " 13, 1896.

November 14, 1896.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Silver Bullion accounts, for the month ending October 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

E. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

+	+	+	Salary, Wages,
Contingent	+ Refinery Expense	+	Month
+	October 31, 1896	+	+

November 14, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 46 ,	10.00
Total	,	$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of October, 1896, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of toleration.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

November 14, 1896.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter received from Hon. C. W. Stone, Chairman of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures of the House of Representatives in reference to permitting the Pittsburg Reduction Co., to submit for test certain alloys of aluminum for coinage purposes.

You will please write to this Company to forward you such alloys as they may desire to submit.

Kindly advise me when you will be ready to strike the experimental pieces from the alloys submitted.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of October 26th in which you request 1,000 printed envelopes,

you are advised that they should be included in your semi-annual requisition.

The sample is herewith enclosed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Telegram Confirmed.

Be governed by letter of fourth instant, in depositing charges collected.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

Agent Adams Ex. Company,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed please find check for 90¢ in payment of your bill for transportation during the month of October.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

November 14, 1896.

W. S. Heely, Esq.,
Attorney at Law,
Covington, Kentucky.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, you are respectfully informed that prior to the passage of the Act of January 16, 1837, no charges were imposed by the Mint upon any bullion brought

to it. The Act of 1837 provided that the only subjects of charge by the Mint to the depositor should be for refining, when the bullion was below standard, for toughening when there were metals contained in it which rendered it unfit for coinage; for copper used for alloy when the bullion was above standard, and for silver introduced into the alloy of gold, and for separating the gold and silver when these metals existed together in the bullion.

The rate of these charges were to be fixed from time to time, by the Director of the Mint with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The same charges were imposed under the Act of February 21, 1853, with the additional charge of one-half of one percent. for the coinage of both gold and silver dollars, and for the manufacture of fine bars.

The Act of 1853 provided that the subsidiary silver coins, that is the half and quarter dollar, dime and half dime, should be on Government account only.

The Act of February 12, 1873, reduced the charges for coining gold to one-fifth of one percent. and the charge for coining Trade dollars was to be fixed from time to time by the Director of the Mint with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The coinage charge on gold was repealed by the Act of January 14th 1875, commonly known as the "Resumption Act."

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

George H. Lechtenberg, Esq.,
Luzerne, Iowa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that the so-called goloid dollars were struck at the request of the Coinage Committee of the House of Representatives and bear the date of 1878-9. The first goloid dollar contained one part of gold and twenty-four of silver, making a total of 25 parts, nine-tenths fine, the weight of which is 258.

The goloid metric dollar of 1878, contained one part of gold, 16 1/10 parts of silver, 1 9/10 parts of copper, making in all 19 parts, weighing 14 1/2 grammes.

The standard metric dollar of 1879, contained 895.8 parts of silver, 4.2 parts of gold and 100 of copper or a total of 1000 parts of the weight of 25 grammes.

The Stella or four dollar gold piece, which belongs to the same series, contains 6 grammes of pure gold, three parts of silver and 7 parts of copper, or a total of seven grammes. There were about 450 pieces of these coins struck.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

A. K. Mehl, Esq.,
Natl Ass'n of Letter Carriers,
Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 19th instant,

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you are respectfully informed that experimental pieces were struck in 1881 of the denomination of four dollars.

The Stella or four-dollar gold piece contains six grammes of pure gold three parts of silver, and seven parts of copper, a total weight of seven grammes. There were about 450 pieces struck.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

Hon. Charles W. Stone, Esq.,
Warren, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

Your letter of the thirteenth instant received, and in reply I would say that I have instructed the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia to write the Pittsburg Reduction Co., to submit such alloys of aluminium as they may desire to have tested for the purpose of showing their suitableness for coinage purposes.

I was under the impression that the Superintendent had already done this, from some conversation had with him on my last visit to Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 14, 1896.

Messrs. Wood and Comer,
130 Funeral Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Returned herewith for correction

Please find your bill for chemical supplies furnished for the use of the Laboratory connected with this Bureau. The percentage off is erroneously calculated and the amount itself is wrong. $6.35 from $365.38 does not leave $383.03 but $359.03.

Please correct and return at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

November 14, 1896.

Rev. William J. Warren,
Federal, Athens Co., Ohio.

Sir:

Referring to my letter of the 13th instant in reply to your interrogatories of the 11th, I have to correct the figures under "silver coinage of 1873."

Trade dollars should read $1,225,000 instead of $225,000.

Half-dimes should read, $51,830.00 instead of $51,890.

This will make the total $4,024,747.60 correct.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 16, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum

of Sixty-eight Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty-seven $\frac{33}{100}$ Dollars ($68,667.33) in Gold Coin, and Nine Hundred and Twenty-three $\frac{75}{100}$ Dollars ($923.75) in Silver Coin, making a total of Sixty-nine Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety-one $\frac{08}{100}$ Dollars ($69,591.08) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 17, dated Nov. 12, 1896 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 16, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 17, dated Nov. 12, 1896 of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 17 dated Nov. 7, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $69,772.61; charges $181.53, and net value $69,591.08. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 16, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quarter Dollars	,	Del. 237	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 238	, .20
2 S. S. Dollars	,	" 239	, 2.00
2 Quar. "	,	" 240	, .50
Total	,		, $3.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 92	, 40.00
2 Half "	,	" 93	, 10.00
2 S. S. Dollars	,	" 102	, 2.00
Total	,		, $52.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

4 S. S. Dollars	,	Dels. 65 & 66	, 4.00
2 " " "	,	" 67	, 2.00
Total	,		, $6.00

November

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your letter of the 14th instant enclosing
ment showing the cost of coining one
ounces of pure silver into silver dollars
been received. In the statement you
salaries which should not be include

You will please make up a statement
the cost in each Department separately
forward the same as early as practica
to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mi

November

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

No transfer orders for gold coin will be dra

R. E. Preston,
Director of the M

Telegrams
Confirmed.

November 16

C. P. Goss,
Waterbury, Connecticut,

Cannot be in Philadelphia before Thursd

R. E. Preston,
Director of the M

November 16,

Herman Horstman, Esq.,
No. 352 Jane Street,
Chicago, Ills.

Sir:- Your letter of the 11th instant enclosi

part of a two-dollar bill has been received and the same has been referred to the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 16, 1896.

Mrs. B. F. Jones,
No. 143 West Mitchell Street,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Madame:

Your communication containing a mutilated five dollar bill has been received and the same has been referred to the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 16, 1896.

Franklin D. Peale, Esq.,
Nos. 27 and 29 Pine Street,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, you are respectfully informed that any one who has received a Medal of Award of the World's Columbian Exposition can have an electrotype made of the same same by anyone they may desire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 16, 1896.

Frank H. Scott, Esq.,
c/o H. T. Simon-Gregory Dry Goods Co.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, you are respectfully informed that the piece referred to in your letter is the Stella or four dollar gold piece, containing six grammes of pure gold, three parts of silver and seven parts of copper a total of seven grammes.

These pieces were struck in 1880, in compliance with a Joint Resolution of Congress, about 450 pieces in all being struck.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 16, 1896.

Eli Wells, Esq.,
Syenite, Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are made at the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, at a charge of three dollars for each assay.

Should you decide to have an assay made, communications should be addressed to the Assayer in Charge of that Institution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 17, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Twenty-four Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety-one $\frac{45}{100}$ Dollars ($24,491.45) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Forty-six $\frac{38}{100}$ Dollars ($246.38) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty-four Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty-seven $\frac{83}{100}$ Dollars ($24,737.83) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer-in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 19 dated Nov. 12, 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 17, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson, be increased in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in Gold Coin, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

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November 17, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Silver Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco, Cal. for the month ending October 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law. See certificate on abstract in relation to recommendation disallowances.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

November 17, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:-

Deposit Memorandum No. 19 dated Nov. 12, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 19 dated Nov. 7, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $24,809.91; charges $72.08, and net value $24,737.83. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 17, 1896.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of One Hundred Thousand Dollars $100,000.-- and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 17, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Silver Bullion accounts for the month ending October 31, 1896, with my approval, except voucher 294, Contingent account, bill of Coburn Levis & Co., for Litharge which was erroneously calculated 2 6/2 instead of 6¢ per lb making an overcharge of 13 cents which I have recommended to be disallowed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 17, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Dollars	Del. 103	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 17, 1896.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

It is the intention of the Civil Service Commission to take up and dispose of the Mints and Assay Offices on Saturday next between eleven and one o'clock, and they desire your presence as well as my own, when the matter comes up.

I would like to have you come over for a preliminary conference on Friday Evening, at the rooms of the Civil Service Commission.

Your necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid while engaged in this service.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 17, 1896.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

The returns of gold and silver contained in base bullion as returned by the Collector of Customs at the Port of New York are very unsatisfactory, which is due to the fact that assays were only made to determine the quantity of lead in base bullion imported.

Would it be practicable to have assays made at your Office to determine the quantity of gold and silver contained in base bullion imported from Mexico?

If necessary I could ask for such additional force as might be necessary at your institution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 18, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise be increased in the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 18, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York City, for the month ending October 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Nov. 5, 1896.
" recd " 6, 1896.

November 18, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 18, 1896.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York City, N.Y.

Sir:- I have examined and referred to the proper

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accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery Expense accounts for the month ending October 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 18, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	Del.	241	.20
2 Quar. Dollars	"	242	.50
Total			$ .70

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del.	104	2.00
Total			$ 2.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del.	68	2.00
Total			$ 2.00

November 18, 1896.

Scovill Manufacturing Company,
Waterbury, Conn.

Sirs:

I send you by registered mail today, a box containing medals of the Columbian Exposition, with the names incorrectly spelled, and I will thank you to strike new medals with the names correctly placed upon the same, as per list enclosed herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer

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be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-one Thousand and Ninety-nine 98/100 Dollars ($91,099.98) in Gold Coin, and Six Hundred and Fifty-seven 91/100 Dollars ($657.91) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-one Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-seven 89/100 Dollars ($91,757.89) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 22 dated Nov. 16, 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco, for the Quarter ending September 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded No letter.
" received Oct. 26, 1896.

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November 19, 1896.

Assayer in Charge,
U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Telegram Confirmed.

Three hundred thousand dollars placed to your credit with Assistant Treasurer at Chicago by wire today.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 22, dated Nov. 16, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 22, dated Nov. 12, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be

$92,030.91; charges $273.02, and net value $91,757.89. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your bullion accounts for the Quarter ending September 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dmar. Dollars	Dcl. 243	.50
Total		$ .50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following: over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 94	40.00
	Total	$40.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 69	2.00
	Total	$2.00

November 19, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The Civil Service Commission have called for a list of the employes of the respective mints and Assay offices to be forwarded them by Saturday. I will thank you to forward by mail to-morrow, a list of the employes in your mint. I would not call upon you for this, but for the fact that it is impossible, owing to the press of business for this Bureau to make a list of all the employes in the various Mints and Assay offices.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, to:

Andrew Mason Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office, New York, N. Y.

November 19, 1896.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith the account of the United States Express Company for the transportation of $10,002,695.24, in gold bullion from the New York Assay Office to your Mint, amounting to four thousand and one dollars and eight cent ($4,001.08) which sum is payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint, for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 19, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I return herewith voucher (No. 38) of the Independent Publishing Company for advertisement, inviting proposals for supplies for the use of your Office during the current fiscal year, belonging to your account of "Contingent Expenses" for the month of October 1896.

This account must be rendered upon the blank form enclosed, and all the requirements of the letter of authority for the same, of the Treasury for the insertion of the advertisement, complied with.

Please have this done, and the voucher returned immediately.

Of the Independent Publishing Co., have

not already forwarded to the Department copies of the paper containing the advertisement they must do so.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 20, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Mint at Denver, Colo. for the month ending October 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Nov. 6, 1896.
" recd " 9, 1896.

November 20, 1896.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts for the month ending October 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 20, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 95	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S.S. Dollars	Del. 70	2.00
Total		$2.00

November 20, 1896.

Thomas W. Burt, Esq.,
Lafayette, Indiana.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that the value of the pure gold in a twenty dollar gold piece when first issued from the Mint is exactly twenty dollars, and is worth the equivalent of that sum in the money of any country of the World.

The alloy neither adds to nor detracts from the value of the coin.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 20, 1896.

Messrs. John A. Lowell & Co.,
No. 147 Franklin Street,
Boston, Mass.

Sirs:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that you can engrave or manufacture an electrotype of the medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition for any person to whom a medal has been awarded.

The possession of the medal will be all the evidence that you will require to manufacture the electrotypes for the parties.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 20, 1896.

W. C. Whitford, Esq.,
Milton College,
Milton, Rock Co., Wisconsin.

Sir:

Your letter of the 10th instant to the Comptroller of the Currency has been referred to this Bureau and in reply you are respectfully informed that all silver dollars coined between 1853 and 1873 were for private individuals; none were coined on Government account.

The subsidiary silver coined between 1853 and 1873 was on Government account.

The silver dollars coined between 1853 and 1873 were exported.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 21, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte be increased in the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution as follows:-

$20,000.- with Assistant Treasurer at New York,
and 5,000.- " Commercial Natl Bank at Charlotte.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 21, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts, of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, for the month ending October 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Nov. 6, 1896.
" recd " 12, 1896.

November 21, 1896.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars $25,000.- and that $20,000.- of this amount be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York and $5,000.- with the Commercial Natl Bank at Charlotte.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 21, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent expense accounts for the month ending October 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 21, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon

assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of November 1896 and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

October	November 1896		

November 21, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2½ Quar. Dollars	Del. 244	.50
Total		.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 21, 1896.

Telegram Confirmed

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Forward requisition for coinage dies immediately for 1897.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 21, 1896.

Messrs Peter Wall & Sons,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Referring to your letter of the 13th instant regarding electrotypes of the medal of award I would say that in the official list as furnished this Bureau the name of "P. Walls Sons" appears entitled to a medal of award.

An electrotype can be made by any party you may desire with the name inserted as in the medal but the name cannot be changed unless there has been an error in the placing of the same on the medal, when the matter should be referred to the Bureau of Awards.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 21, 1896.

To the Officers and Employes of the
Mints and Assay Offices of the United States

"Regulations"

"To Govern Examinations for Entrance into and Promotions in the Mints and Assay Offices of the United States."

For the purposes of admission or promotion to positions in the Mints and Assay Offices of the United States, the following regulations and schedules shall be adopted and enforced on and after the 23rd instant:

over.

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Scientific places ___ ___ ___ Schedule A.
Clerical places ___ ___ ___ Schedule B.
Skilled trades ___ ___ ___ Schedule C.
Miscellaneous places ___ ___ Schedule D.
Places below classification ___ Schedule E.

Scientific Places.- Schedule A.

Upon the occurrence of a vacancy in a position within Schedule A., which cannot be filled suitably by transfer or promotion, or from existing registers of eligibles, the Commission will hold a special examination therefor.

Schedule A.

Assistant Melter and Refiner.
Forman in Melting and Refining Department.
Refiner.
Assistant Assayer.
Weigher in Assayer's Department.
Assistant Weigher in Assayer's Department.
Engravers.
Die Makers.
First Assistant Assayer.
Second Assistant Assayer.
Third Assistant Assayer.
Chemist.
Foreman of Laboratory.
Foreman of Deposit-Melting.
Assistant Foreman in Melting and Refining Department.

Clerical Places.- Schedule B.

Upon the occurrence of a vacancy in a position within Schedule B., it may be filled by a transfer or promotion of the Mint employes on any tests of fitness determined upon by the Superintendent, not disapproved by the Director of the Mint and the Civil Service Commission; but if the position can not be filled suitably

by transfer or promotion it may be filled from existing clerk-copyist registers of eligibles; but if no suitable register exists, the Commission will hold at once a special examination therefor.

Schedule B.

Cashier.
Chief Clerk.
Bookkeeper.
Assistant Bookkeeper.
Clerk.
Shipping Clerk.
Weigh Clerk.
Assistant Weigh Clerk.
Registrar of Deposits.
Abstract Clerk.
Warrant Clerk.
Assayer's Computation Clerk.
Register Clerk.
Medal Clerk.
Pay Clerk.
Time Clerk.
Bank Messenger.
Inspector.
Assistant.
Curator.
Assistant Inspector.
Assistant Curators.
Minor Coin Counters.
Assistant Custodian.
Foreman of Machine Shop.
Storekeeper.
Assistant Coiner.
Counters.
Medalist.
Assistant Medalist.

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Foreman of Deposit Melter's Room.
Assayer's Computation Clerk.
Pressmans.
Chief Doorkeepers.
Copyist.

Skilled Trades.- Schedule C.-

Upon the occurrence of a vacancy in a position within Schedule C., it will be filled from registers of eligibles prepared after a simple examination not more difficult than the skilled laborer examinations of the Civil Service Commission, and practical questions or tests to be determined upon by the Superintendent. Certification may be made from these registers in the order of relative fitness, as determined by the marking in the manner provided by the Civil Service Rules.

Schedule C.

Adjuster of Scales.
Machinists.
Gas Fitter.
Electrician.
Blacksmiths.
Painter.
Millwright.
Foreman of Carpenters.
Carpenters.
Chief Engineer.
Assistant Engineer.
Fireman.
Captain of the Watch.
Annealer.
Prover.
Foreman of Cleaners.
Cleaner.

Roller.
Cutter.
Foreman of Adjusters.
Adjusters and Counters.
Adjusters.
Counters.
Melter.
Assistant Melter.
Employes in sweep cellar.
Fine Gold Melter.
Gold Melter.
Silver Reducer.
Gold Boiler.
Deposit Melter.
Foreman in Assayer's Department.
Helper in Assayer's Department.
Skilled Workman in Assayer's Department.
Laboratory Helper.
Bullion Sampler.
Foreman Acid Room.
Plumber.
Assistant in Acid Room.
Engineers.
Conductors.

Miscellaneous Places.- Schedule D.

Upon the occurrence of a vacancy in a position within Schedule D., it will be filled from a register of eligibles prepared after an examination not more difficult than the skilled laborer examination.

Certification will be made from these registers in the order of relative fitness as determined by the marking in the manner provided by the Civil Service Rules.

over.

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Schedule D.-

Oilers.
Gate Keeper.
Watchman.
Sewing Woman.
Foreman of Laborers.
Classified Laborers.
Classified Workman.
Helper in the Coinage Department.
Messenger.
Helper in the Melting and Refining Department.
Janitor.
Doorman.

Places Below the Classified Service.- Schedule E.

All positions below the classified service, or the positions filled by persons merely employed as laborers or workmen, will be within Schedule E.

No officer in the Mints or Assay Offices of the United States shall dismiss, or cause to be dismissed, or make any attempt to procure the dismissal of, or in any manner change the official rank or compensation of any other person therein, in any of the Schedules, A, B, C, D, and E, of these regulations, because of the political or religious opinions or affiliations.

The provisions of the Civil Service relative to political assessments will be strictly observed.

Appointments to positions in the Mint at Philadelphia shall be from the register of eligibles for the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

Appointments to positions in the Assay Office at New York, shall be filled from the register of eligibles from the States of New York, Connecticut and New Jersey.

Appointments to positions in the Mint at

New Orleans, shall be from the register of eligibles for the States of Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi.

Appointments to positions in the Mint at San Francisco shall be from the register of eligibles for the States of California, Oregon and Washington.

Appointments to positions in the remaining Mints or Assay Offices shall be from the eligible registers for the State or Territory in which that office is located, or from the adjoining States.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Approved:
By the Order of the Civil Service Commission.
John R. Procter.
President.

November 23, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Medal Fund account of the Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa. for the Quarter ending September 30, 1896, pendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by Law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Oct. 10, 1896.
" recd " 12, 1896.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address: over.

+ + + Salary, Wages and
Contingent expense + Assayer in charge
+ U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C. + Month
+ October 31, 1896. + + +
See certificate on abstract of disbursements.
Accounts sent Nov. 6, 1896.
" recd " 9, 1896.

+ + + Salary, Wages, & Contingent
Expense + Assayer + U. S. Assay Office
at St. Louis, Mo. + month + October 31, 1896 +
Accounts sent Oct. 31, 1896.
" recd Nov. 2, 1896.

November 23, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Medal Fund account for the Quarter ending September 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

+ + + Salary, Wages
+ Contingent expense + month +
October 31, 1896 + approval, except voucher
No. 4, which has not been found with

the account and has in consequence been recommended for disallowance.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Contingent Expense	Month	Salary, Wages Oct. 31, 1896	

November 23, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 245	2.00
Total		2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 96		40.00
2 S. S. Dollars	" 106		2.00
Total			$42.00

November 23, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir: In my report for the fiscal year 1894,

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I omitted to publish the details of minor coins transferred for recoinage for that fiscal year.

Will you please furnish me with information similar to that on page 74 of the last annual report, in order that I may publish in the report for 1896, a statement covering in full, the amount of minor coins transferred for recoinage during the past three years. I will also thank you to furnish me with a copy of the statement previously transmitted by you to this Bureau, showing the minor coin distributed by the States and Territories during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1894, as the statement furnished by you sometime since has been mislaid and thus far I have been unable to find it.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 23, 1896.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I enclose herewith rules and regulations to govern examinations for entrance into and promotions in the Mints and Assay Offices of the United States, as approved by the Civil Service Commission, and by which you will be governed hereafter, in making appointments, promotions and transfers.

Further instructions will be sent you on this subject in the course of a few days.

Any vacancy, however, that may occur on and after this date must be filled, in

accordance with the rules enclosed herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following:-

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Missouri

November 23, 1896

Hon. William F. Harrity,
No 1112 Gerard Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the sixteenth instant was duly received, and in reply I would say that if the Superintendent finds that he can make the appointment of Miss

Susan A. Mullins, to a position in the Mint, and will submit the same to this Bureau, I will approve the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 23, 1896.

Professor W. G. Sumner,
No. 140 Edwards Street,
New Haven, Connecticut.

Sir:

In answer to the inquiries in your letter of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that I derived my information as to the fineness of the gross or crude (rauhe) Castillian marco from Noback's Munz- Maass- und Gewichtsbuch, page 646. On that page Noback says:-

"Until about 1775, accounts were kept in the thirteen English colonies of North America which now constitute the principal part of the United States, in pounds of 20 shillings, of 12 pence, Colonial or Pound currency, 133 1/3 pounds of which equaled 100 pounds sterling, and 4 pounds currency therefore 3 pounds sterling, since the principal instrument of payment, the Spanish piaster or dollar was worth in the colonies 6 shillings currency while in England it was worth 4 1/2 shillings sterling. According to the then legal mintage of the Spanish silver piaster (up to 1772, 8 1/2 pieces from the crude Castillian marco. 909722 fine) the pound currency was therefore a quantity of 82.0699660 grams of fine silver of the value of

14. 7725939 German gold marks."

What Noback says of the weight of the castillian marco is to be found on pr. 572 of his book is as follows: The marco was equal to one-half of a commercial pound or 230.0465 grams or 3550.1578 English Troy grains.

Noback's book was published in Leipzig by Brookhaus in 1879. I have always found it a thoroughly reliable authority on all questions of weights and measures, but more especially on coinage.

I regret that owing to an over-sight, due to pressure of business your letter has not been answered before this time.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 24, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Forty-nine Thousand and Eleven $\frac{88}{100}$ Dollars ($49,011.88) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Nineteen $\frac{41}{100}$ Dollars ($319.41) in Silver Coin, making a total of Forty-nine Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty-one $\frac{29}{100}$ Dollars ($49,331.29) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by

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Memorandum No. 18, dated Nov. 19, 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Boise + + Mint at Philadelphia + Thirty-one Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-nine 69/100 + ($31,929.69) + One Hundred and Fourteen 80/100 + ($114.80) + total of Thirty-two Thousand and Forty-four 49/100 + $32,044.49 + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 20 + Nov. 20, 1896 + + + + +

+ + + Assay Office at St. Louis + Mint at Philadelphia + Eleven Thousand and Fifty-five 16/100 + ($11,055.16) + One Hundred and Thirty-seven 48/100 + ($137.48) + total of Eleven Thousand One Hundred and Ninety-two 64/100 + ($11,192.64) + Assayer + Assay Office at St. Louis + Memorandum No. 252 + Nov. 20, 1896 + + + +

November 24, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 18, dated Nov. 19, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 18, dated Nov. 14, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $49,455.60; charges $124.31, and net value $49,331.29.

For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 20 + Nov. 20, 1896 + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 20, + Nov. 14, 1896 + + + $32,125.17; + $80.68, + $32,044.49. + + + + +

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 252 + Nov. 20, 1896 + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 252 + Nov. 17, 1896 + + + $11,228.37; + $35.73, + $11,192.64. + + + +

November 24, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find disbursing clerks check on Assistant Treasurer at New York, in your favor for eleven dollars twenty-five cents ($11.25) the same being issued in payment of your traveling

expenses in coming from Philadelphia to Washington and return.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 24, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Quarter Eagles	,	Del. 47	, 5.00
Total	,		$ 5.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 107	, 2.00
Total	,		$ 2.00

November 24, 1896.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 16th inst. Cer-

tificate of Deposit No. 196 for $22.78, being on account of Value of D. M. Room grains recovered, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + 16th inst. Certificate of Deposit No. 197 for $2090.78 + + Parting and Refining Charges, Dr. endg Sept. 96 + + returned to this office, personal credit + bullion + to the credit of the appropriation for Parting and Refining Bullion.

November 24, 1896.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 19th instant, respecting a Ledger ordered August 15, I would state as no sample accompanied your requisition, as required by the Treasury Department, no requisition was made on the Public Printer for the book in question.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 24, 1896.

Superintendent Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Forward immediately statement showing number of deposits and number of all assays made during fiscal year ended June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

Similar telegrams to the following:

Superintendent Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Telegrams Confirmed.

Assayer Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Assayer, Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Assayer, Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

November 24, 1896.

J. E. Ham, Esq.,
No 203 Broadway,
New York City.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 23rd instant, you are respectfully informed that any person to whom a medal of the World's Columbian Exposition has been awarded can have as many electrotypes of such medal made for advertising purposes as they may deem proper, and to have the electrotypes manufactured by any person or firm they may

select. No one has the monopoly of making these electrotypes.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 24, 1896.

Franklin D. Beale,
27-29 Pine Street,
New York.

Telegram Confirmed

There is no objection to your publishing my letter of sixteenth instant, replying to yours of sixth. On fact would be pleased to have you do so.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

November 24, 1896.

Henry Troemner, Esq.,
No. 710 Market Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please manufacture for the use of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, one of your new Number 5 Assay Balances, at a cost not exceeding $175.00 and a set of weights for $9.00. The Assayer in charge writes that he is in need of a "pulp scale" such as is used in making assays of ores. What would you furnish this for? He also writes that the office is in need of analytical balances for quantitative work, please write me at what price you would furnish this balance with the necessary weights.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director of the Mint.

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November 25, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 246	, 2.00
Total	,		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 97	, 40.00
Total	,		$40.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 74	, 2.00
Total	,		$2.00

November 25, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 24th instant, you are hereby authorized to purchase

one number 7 improved Remington type-writer, for the use of the Coiner's department at a cost not exceeding ninety dollars ($90.00) payment for which will be made from your appropriation for contingent expenses for the current fiscal year.

When rendering your account, you will please note on the voucher the date of its authority.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 25, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Your letter of the 24th instant enclosing bids for exceps is received and you are authorized, as recommended by you, to accept the bid of Glorieux and Woolsey in the sum of eighty-six hundred and eleven dollars ($8,611.00) for the Melter and Refiner's exceps, and that of Balbach Smelting and Refining Company in the sum of $3.082.24 for the Coiner's exceps.

The bids are returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 25, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have mailed to your address today

the following Reports for Library in U. S. Mint:
Annuals 1881, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93,
94 and 95, two copies of each year excepting
1889, 1893 and 1894.
Production, 1884, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 93 and 94,
two copies of each year excepting 1891 and 1894.
The edition of 1892 is entirely exhausted.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 25, 1896.

Ernest E. Ling, Esq.,
Sec. Seattle Chamber of Commerce,
Seattle, Washington.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 18th instant, you are respectfully informed that before an assay office could be established, it would be necessary that a bill be passed by Congress, authorizing the establishment of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 25, 1896.

John Cox Sheets, Esq.,
No. 580 N. Alabama Street,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Sir:

Your letter of the 23rd instant, enclosing mutilated one dollar gold piece has been received, and referred to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, who will return you the coining value of the same.

Respectfully yours,

November 27, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at St. Louis be increased in the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at St. Louis, Mo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 27, 1896.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at St. Louis.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 27, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	,	Del. 247	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 248	, .20
2 Half Dollars	,	" 249	, 1.00
2 Dimes	,	" 250	, .20
Total	,		, $1.90

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 98	, 40.00
2 Eagles	,	" 99	, 20.00
Total	,		, $60.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Quar. Dollars	,	Del. 75	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 76	, .20
2 S. S. Dollars	,	" 77	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.70

November 27, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I will thank you to cause the following coinage dies, for the calendar year 1897, to be prepared and forwarded to the Mint at San Francisco, as early as practicable:-

Silver	20	obverse	and	20	reverse Standard silver dollars.
"	12	"	"	12	" Half dollars.
"	10	"	"	10	" Quarter dollars.
"	10	"	"	10	" Dimes.
Gold	8	"	"	8	" Double eagles.
"	5	"	"	5	" Eagles.
"	5	"	"	5	" Half Eagles.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 27, 1896.

W. E. Andrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November 25th, transmitting voucher No. 4, of your October account of contingent expenses and to say that the same has been placed to your credit in said account.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 27, 1896.

W. W. Aylesworth, Esq.,
Lima, Ohio.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th instant, you are respectfully informed that this Department has no copies of the "Final Report of the Royal Commission Appointed to Enquire into the Recent changes in the Relative Value of the Precious Metals," for distribution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 27, 1896.

J. E. Ham,
203 Broadway,
New York.

Telegram Confirmed.

There is no objection whatever to your publishing my letter of twenty-fourth instant.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

November 28, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson for the Quarter ending Sept 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Accounts sent Oct. 15, 1896.
" recd " 20, 1896.
" returned for correction Nov. 4, 1896.
" corrected & returned " 19, 1896.
" " received " 25, 1896.

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November 28, 1896.

E. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your bullion accounts for the Quarter ending Sept. 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 28, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	Del. 251	1.00
Total		$1.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. L. Dollars	Del. 108	2.00
Total		$2.00

November 28, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of Oct. & Nov. 1896, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

November 28, 1896.

To the
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I enclose herewith the account of Henry Troemner of Philadelphia for one 1500 ounce bullion balance shipped you through the Quartermaster's department on the 21st instant. Upon receipt of the balance you will remit Mr. Troemner a draft on New York for the amount, viz:- Five

hundred and fifty dollars ($550.00). To enable you to make payment in this manner, I will request that an advance be made you from your appropriation for contingent expenses for the current fiscal year, and placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer at New York.

An estimate will be submitted, for an appropriation of $900.00 to supply a deficiency in your appropriation for Contingent Expenses for the current fiscal year, made necessary by the purchase of this balance and two assay balances. There is no doubt Congress will make this appropriation at the coming session.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 28, 1896.

H. T. Bryan, Esq.,
Foreman Government Printing Office,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have a number of inquiries from newspapers who publish an almanac annually, for information as contained in the following galleys:-

Numbers 24, 27, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 C. N.

Pages 17, 18, 38, 40, 41, 42, 46 and 49.

Coinage stereotype plates, pp. 334 to 341 inclusive,

and if you will kindly strike off six copies of these pages and galleys from the report on the Production of Precious Metals, I will be under many obligations.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 28, 1896.

H. I. Bryan, Esq.,
Foreman Government Printing Office,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Kindly send me two copies of revised page proof of ~~the report~~ of the report of the Production of Precious Metals. The first page proof was returned this morning.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 28, 1896.

John A. Brown, Esq.,
No. 410 K Street, N. W.,
City.

Sir:

Your letter of the 16th instant together with your letter of the 25th instant, has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that the subject matter will be taken up and disposed of finally as far as this Bureau is concerned during the coming week.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 28, 1896.

Bradford Rhodes,
Editor Bankers Magazine,
New York City.

Sir:

In reply to your letter requesting to be fur-

nished with an advance copy of my fiscal report for 1896, I regret to say the report has not yet been sent to the Printer, and I will not be able to send it to him until the latter part of next week, however, if you find it will answer your purpose, I will be pleased to send you an abstract of its contents by the third proximo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 28, 1896.

C. Serier, Esq.,
P. O. Box 299,
South Kaukana, Wisconsin.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, you are respectfully informed that I am unable to give you any information as to the cost of the production of gold and silver prior to 1873, in fact, there is no reliable data as to the cost even at the present time, as it varies greatly. The ore from some mines is easily worked, while in others it is very refractory, and as the depth increases the cost of production increases correspondingly.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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November 28, 1896.

Henry Troemner, Esq.,
No. 710 Market Street,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Your letter of the 25th instant received, enclosing your account in duplicate for bullion balance shipped to the United States Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, and I have forwarded the same to the Assayer of that institution with instructions to remit you a draft on New York in the sum of $550.00.

As I have received no notice of the shipment, by you, of the adjusting balances for the Mint at San Francisco, I presume you have forwarded your account direct to the Superintendent of the Mint. I merely call your attention to the fact, for fear you might have been under the impression that the same had been sent to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 30. 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2. 2.5. Dollars Del. 109 $ 2.00
Total ... $ 2.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:
Overton Wade.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

2 S.S. dollars	Del. 78	$ 2.00
2 half "	" 80	.50
	Total	$ 2.50

Herman Kretz.
Supt. U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia. Pa.

2. S.S. Dollars	Del. 252	$ 2.00
2 Quar. "	" 253	50
2 Dimes	" 254	.20
	Total	$ 2.70

Telegram:
Superintendent Mint.
Philadelphia Pa.

Advise me by to-days mail when Tuttle and Morgan will have material ready for report.

R. E. Preston
Director Mint.

Charge Treasury.

November 30. 1896

To the
Chief Clerk. Treasury Department.
Washington. D.C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 10th instant, requesting to be furnished with a statement showing the probable amount of space required for the present and prospective needs of this office for the storage of papers, documents, etc., as provided by Act of Congress, approved June 11. 1896;

I estimate that it would require a room 20 x 35 feet.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

November 30 - 1896

A. K. Sharp, Esq.
Townville, South Carolina

Sir:

Your letter of the 28th instant advising shipment of small amount of gold by express, received, and the package has been delivered by the Express Company. I have this day forwarded the same to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, with the request that he return you the bullion value of the gold.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint

December 1. 1896

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith a letter from the Navy Department requesting the preparation of the dies for a medal which it is proposed to give enlisted men of the Marine Corps for good conduct. I will thank you to deliver the same to the Engraver with instructions to engrave the dies as early as possible.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 1 - 1896

John A. Brown. Esq.
#410 K. St. N.W.
City

Sir:

Your account for services from December 22. 1895 to January 21, 1896 for inspecting medal & Award, World's Columbian Exposition, has been transmitted to the Secretary for his action.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 1. 1896

To the Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith as requested six copies of Department circular # 151. and a supply of requisition blanks that can be used until the revised form is ready for distribution.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 1. 1896

See File for Collector of Customs.

To the Collector of Customs.
Suspension Bridge. N.Y.

Sir:

Referring to your statement of imports of gold and silver during the month of October, 1896. I notice you report thereon the importation of $ 1.900 in foreign silver coin. Please inform me if this entry, as made on your statement, is correct.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.

December 1, 1896

Superintendent Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Am summoned to appear before sub-committee tomorrow. Please forward by mail today any suggestions you have to make.

R. E. Preston.
Director Mint.

Chargé Treasury.

December 1, 1896

Mr. C. E. Barber.
Engraver Mint U. S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Will you please tell me why it is that on our coins we use the six-pointed star and on the flag the five-pointed only. I will be glad to have an answer by return mail.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 1. 1896.

Guy Bryan, Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge
U. S. Assay Office.
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Under your renewal bond bearing date of October 31st 1896, no balances will be brought forward to your November accounts, but instead any balances remaining in your hands on October 31st will be covered into the Treasury, if you have not already done so.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.

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December 1. 1896

To the
Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury.
Washington. D.C.

Sir:

Referring to the enclosed account of John A. Brown for services from December 22. 1895 to January 21. 1896. in connection with the Medal of Award, World's Columbian Exposition, I have to submit the following:

Under date of June 21. 1895. authority was given the Director of the Mint, to employ from July 1. 1895. for a period of two months, two competent persons at a compensation of $100.00 per month to finish the medals of award. then in course of preparation by the Scovill Manufacturing Company of Waterbury, Connecticut.

Under date of July 27. 1895 John A. Brown was employed, and directed to proceed to Waterbury and inspect the names on the medals and see that they corresponded with the list as furnished by the Bureau of Awards and perform such other duties as might be required.

Mr. Brown continued on duty for a period exceeding two months, and under date of October 26. 1895 his employment was approved, and authority given to continue his services for a period not exceeding two months from October 22. 1895: and making his term of service expire December 21/95.

The medals not being ready for shipment at this date, Mr. Brown remained at Waterbury of his own volition until January 22. 1896. when the medals were shipped.

Mr. Brown was the only person employed in connection with the inspection of the medals of the World's Columbian Exposition. The engraving was inspected by Mr. Charles E. Barber

Engraver of the Mint at Philadelphia, he being a salaried officer he received only actual traveling expenses.

While no authority was given Mr. Brown to remain at Waterbury, after December 22. 1895, I am of the opinion that he is entitled to some compensation as he remained at Waterbury until the medals were packed and shipped to the Department. I therefore recommend the payment of Mr. Brown's account provided there is an appropriation available for the purpose.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 7. 1896

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir:

The following coins received at our Mint during the month of November, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4	U.S. dollars	del. 110 & 111	$ 4.00
		Total	$ 4.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter:
Herman Kretz
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia:

4	U.S. dollars	del. 255 & 256	$ 4.00
2	quar "	" 257	.50
		Total	$ 4.50

December 1. 1896

W. J. Puckett. Esq.
Assayer in charge U. S. Mint.
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum 24 dated Nov. 25, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment # 24 dated Nov. 21. 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $84.998 41/100 Charges $193.23/100 and net value $84.805 18/100. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia

Respectfully yours.
A. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:
E. B. Braden.
Assayer in Charge U. S. Assay Office
Helena, Montana.

No. 19. ++ Nov. 27. 1896 ++ Shipment No. 19 - dated Nov. 21. 1896 +++ $34.416 27/100. Charges $88.81/100 and net value $34.328 46/100 + + + + + + + +

W. J. Puckett Esq
Assayer in charge U. S. Assay Office.
Denver, Colo.

No. 23 + Nov. 25. 1896 ++ Shipment No. 23, dated Nov. 21. 1896 +++ $73.527 90/100 Charges $200/100 net value $73.327 90/100

December 1, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury

Sir.

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of seventy-two thousand seven hundred and eighty-two $\frac{81}{100}$ dollars ($72,782.81) in gold coin, and five hundred and forty-five $\frac{09}{100}$ dollars ($545.09) in silver coin, making a total of seventy-three thousand three hundred and twenty-seven $\frac{90}{100}$ Dollars ($73,327.90), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 23, dated Nov. 25, 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:-

+ + Assay Office at Helena + Mint at Philadelphia + + ($34,090.60) in Gold Coin + ($237.86) in Silver Coin + total of $34,328.46 + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Helena + Memorandum No. 19, + Nov. 27, 1896, + + +

+ + Mint at Denver + + ($84,756.91) in Gold Coin, + ($48.27) in Silver Coin + total of ($84,805.18) + + Bullion + Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No. 24 + Nov. 25, 1896 + + +

November 30, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Montana, for the month ending October 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law. See recommendation on abstract.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

Accounts sent Nov. 4, 1896.
" recd " 9, 1896.

November 30, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense accounts for the month ending October 31, 1896, with my approval, except voucher 38 of the contingent account, bill of Independent Publishing Co., which has been returned for correction, amounting to $4.50 which amount I recommend to be disallowed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

To the
Honorable Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Philadelphia to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of Nine thousand dollars ($9,000.) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the act of July 14, 1890, received in exchange for standard silver dollars, during the months of November 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have this day requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of your Mint to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of Nine thousand dollars ($9,000.) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the act of July 14, 1890, received in exchange for standard silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In as much as Messrs Gloriex and Woolsey have declined to take the Melter and Refiner's sweeps, you are authorized to accept the offer of the next highest bidder, viz: The Balbach Smelting and Refining Company.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your request contained in letter of the 1st instant, you are hereby authorized to purchase the small rolling top desk for the use of the Cashier's office, at a price not to exceed fifteen dollars ($15.00).

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

December 2, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of November 1896, and forwarded to the

Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 100	,	40.00
Total		,	40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of December 1896, has been approved for the sum of $41,850.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897	$ 3,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897	20.000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897	5,000.
Parting & Refining Bullion,	—	3,000.
Coinage of S. Bullion, (Act 1890,)	—	10.000.
Storage " " " " "	—	350.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

December 1896

$13,400

Salaries — — over.

Salaries,	1897.	$3,300.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	2,300.
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	800.
Parting & Refining Bullion,	——	7,000.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

December 1896

$2,500.00

Salaries,	1897.	800.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	1,400.
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	300.

December 2, 1896.

Superintendent Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Increase your output of subsidiary silver coinage as much as possible without regard to amount of standard silver dollars to be coined this month.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

Telegrams Confirmed. Similar telegram to:

Superintendent Mint,
New Orleans, La.

December 2, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Enclosed please find returned the bill of the "Idaho Democrat" for advertising under authority of the Secretary of the Treasury.

It seems the Auditor of the Treasury is of the opinion that since about two thirds of the advertising was done during the current fiscal year, you should be authorized to pay the bill from the current year's appropriation for contingent expenses of your Office, it is therefore returned to enable you to do so.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

The American Type Founders' Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that John R. Neal & Co., have received a medal.

In referring applications hereafter, the Group number must be given, in fact, if the parties will furnish you evidence that they have received a medal, it is unnecessary to refer the applications to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

S. S. Hallam, Esq.,
Monmouth, Illinois.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that silver dollars are being coined from bullion purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890; the Act of

November 1, 1893 repealed only the purchasing clause of that of July 14, 1890, but did not prohibit the coinage of silver bullion on hand into silver dollars. The number of silver dollars coined during the fiscal year 1896 was: $7,500,822.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

S. C. Parks, Jr.
Cashier, First National Bank of Lander,
Lander, Wyoming.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo, you are informed that there were coined 19,039,392 silver dollars from January 1, 1895, to December 1, 1896:

Calendar year 1895	$ 862,880
Eleven months 1896	18,176,512

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 2, 1896.

The Scovill Mfg. Co.,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Sir:

I forward you by registered mail today, four (4) medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition for the purpose of correcting the errors in the names. Enclosed you will please find a list of the names as printed and correctly spelled.

I will thank you to return the medals to this Bureau as early as possible.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 3, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Months of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 258	, 2.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 259	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 260	, .20
Total	,		$2.70

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

+	+	November 1896	+
2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 81	, 2.00
Total	,		$2.00

December 3, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, the Assayer's report upon

assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of November 1896 and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limit of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

December 3, 1896.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of December, 1896, has been approved for the sum of $400.10, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 252.70
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	84.20
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	63.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 3, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

For the reason stated in your letter of the 27th instant, you are authorized to annul the contract for sulphuric acid (chemically pure) awarded to John Reynolds at twelve cents per pound, and to purchase the same in open market at the best rates obtainable.

I think it would be well to notify Mr. Reynolds that the acid supplied by him is not satisfactory, and that you are going to purchase the same in open market, and hold him responsible on his bond for the difference in price.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 3, 1896.

G. S. Hobbs, Esq.,
Auditor Southern Railway Co.,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of Nov. 19, 1896, I have to say that all bills for service against this Bureau prior to July 1st 1896, have been approved and referred to the Auditor for the Treasury Department for payment.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

December 3, 1896.

Wm. E. O. Leech,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Leech:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, I would say that Major Kretz was mistaken when he informed you that the Treasury was shipping new minor and subsidiary coins to the banks and others.

There has been no change in the regulations governing the shipment of minor and subsidiary coins to cities in which there is a Sub-treasury, the practice is the same as formerly, viz: to keep a supply on hand at the Sub-treasuries.

New York was sent a supply some time since, and if you cannot obtain the new coins you wish there, let me know, and I will endeavor to arrange to have them supplied you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 3, 1896.

John E. Scott, Esq.,
Grampian Bay,
Dorchester, Mass.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that the coining value of 1,000 ounces of pure gold would be $20,671.83.

If a deposit of 1000 ounces of pure gold were made, it would be necessary to add

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111 11/100 ounces of copper to reduce it to standard metal, the cost of which at 2 cents per ounce would be $2.22. There would be a charge of $1.00 for melting the deposit, making the total charges $3.22 deducting these, the depositor would receive $20,668.61.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 3, 1896.

D. K. Tuttle,
Care U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram Confirmed.

Need not describe cyanide process in article.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

December 4, 1896.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery Expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending November 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

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December 4, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Quar. Dollars	,	Del. 261	, $ .50
Total	,		, $ .50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 82	, 1.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 83	, .50
Total	,		$1.50

December 4, 1896.

Robert Beall, Esq.,
#495 Penna. Ave.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Enclosed please find Treasury draft for $4.65 in your favor in payment of your bill for books furnished for the use of this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

December 5, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise be increased in the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars, $50,000.- by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 5, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York City, N. Y. for the month ending November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Dec. 3rd, 1896.
" recd " 4th, 1896.

December 5, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir: I have requested that the Bullion Fund

of your Institution be increased by a transfer of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 5, 1896.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York City, N.Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department, for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery Expense accounts for the month ending November 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 5, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of inquiry of the 4th instant, you are informed that 10,000 manilla bags will be shipped your Mint by mail to-day.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 5, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 262	, 1.00
2 Dimes	,	" 264	, .20
Total	,		, $1.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 84	, 1.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 85	, .50
Total	,		, $1.50

December 5, 1896.

To the
Chief Clerk,
U. S. Govt Printing Office.

Sir:

I have a number of inquiries from newspapers who publish an almanac, annually, for information contained in the following pages:- 17, 18, 38, 40, 41, 42, 46, 49, 322, 323, 328, 329, and 340 to 373 inclusive.

If you will kindly strike off six copies of these pages from the Report on the Production

of Precious Metals 1895, I will be under many obligations to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 5, 1896.

To the
Honorable the Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 30th ultimo, enclosing design for the obverse and reverse of the proposed medal for good conduct of enlisted men in the Marine Corps, I have to request that you will furnish a blue print of the relief and that you will please state whether the relief is to be struck with a flat back.

The drawing furnished seems to indicate that the relief is to be round, and if so, is not calculated to be struck in dies, it could be cast or made up like a piece of jewelry, but would be very expensive.

The riders made at the Mint for all other branches of the Government are struck in relief in the back-ground and not in the round.

The enclosed photographs will show what is meant by being struck in relief by dies and not in the round.

Please return the photographs and blue print with your reply.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

December 5, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 262	, 1.00
2 Dimes		" 264	, .20
Total	,	,	$ 1.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mints.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 84	, 1.00
2 Quar. Dollars		" 85	, .50
Total	,	,	$ 1.50

December 5, 1896.

To the
Chief Clerk,
U. S. Govt Printing Office.

Sir:

I have a number of inquiries from newspapers who publish an almanac, annually, for information contained in the following pages:- 17, 18, 38, 40, 41, 42, 46, 49, 322, 323, 328, 329, and 340 to 373 inclusive.

If you will kindly strike off six copies of these pages from the Report on the Production

of Precious Metals 1895, I will be under many obligations to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mints

December 5, 1896.

To the

Honorable the Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 30th ultimo, enclosing design for the obverse and reverse of the proposed medal for good conduct of enlisted men in the Marine Corps, I have to request that you will furnish a blue print of the relief and that you will please state whether the relief is to be struck with a flat back.

The drawing furnished seems to indicate that the relief is to be round, and if so, is not calculated to be struck in dies, it could be cast or made up like a piece of jewelry, but would be very expensive.

The riders made at the Mint for all other branches of the Government are struck in relief in the back-ground and not in the round.

The enclosed photographs will show what is meant by being struck in relief by dies and not in the round.

Please return the photographs and blue print with your reply.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

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December 5, 1896.

Messrs. Lazard Freres,
No. 10 Wall Street,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, in regard to making some blanks or planchets of gold coin for one of the South American Republics, I would say that this work could not be done at the Mint for some months to come, as at present our own domestic coinage demands our facilities to the fullest extent.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 5, 1896.

W. L. Muhleman, Esq.,
Acting Assistant Treasurer,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, I would say that I have but one report of Mr. De Foville, Director of the Mint at Paris.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 7, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense

accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Montana, for the month ending November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Dec. 1, 1896.
" recd " 7, 1896.

December 7, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent expense accounts for the month ending November 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 7, 1896.

Superintendent Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Telegram Confirmed

When do you think you will be able to strike experimental pieces.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

December 7, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	Del. 265 ,	1.00
Total ,	,	$1.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

November 1896.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 104 ,	40.00
2 S.S. Dollars	" 114 ,	2.00
Total ,	,	$42.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

December 1896

2 Half Dollars	Del. 86 ,	$1.00
2 Quar. Dollars	" 87 ,	.50
2 Dimes	" 88 ,	.20
Total ,	,	$1.70

December 7, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of December 1896, has been approved for the sum of $30,000. - payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,300.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	12,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	3,000.
Parting & Refining bullion	—	1,500.
Coinage of Silver Bullion (Act of 1890)		10,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + December 1896 +

+ + $13,200. - + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 2,700.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	6,500.
Contingent Expenses	1897,	1,000.
Coinage of Silver Bullion (Act 1890.)		3,000.

J. W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

+ + + December 1896 +

over.

approved for the sum of $4,000.-

Salaries,	1897,	$ 1,200.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	500.
Parting & Refining Bullion	—	1300.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office
Helena, Montana.

December 1896

$2,000.-

Salaries,	1897,	$ 600.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,100.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	300.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

December 1896

$371.70

Salaries,	1897,	$ 231.70
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	40.00
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	100.00

December 7, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of Nov. 24th forwarding corrected vouchers, for advertising, pertaining to your account for Contingent Expenses, for the months of Oct. 1896, I would say that the same has been examined, found correct and referred to the Auditor for file with the account

to your credit, and the disallowance recommended by this Bureau has been recalled; you will therefore soon be advised that the account is all right.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

December 7, 1896.

Hon H. H. Bingham,
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives.

Sir:

In compliance with your verbal request, I have the honor to submit the following in reference to the continuance of coinage operations at the Mints at Carson City, Nevada, and New Orleans, La.

The following table exhibits the value of gold and silver bullion deposited at these institutions during the fiscal years 1895 and 1896:-

Mint at New Orleans:-

Fiscal Year	Gold		Silver	
	Standard ozs.	Value.	Standard ozs.	Value.
June 30, 1895	12,770.124	$237,583.70	851,848.70	*$991,242.12
June 30, 1896	11,349.246	211,148.76	1,147,693.91	+1,335,498.37

* Includes $986,056.03 coining value of silver coins transferred from Treasury

\+ Includes $1,315,798.23 coining value of silver coins transferred from Treasury.

Mint at Carson.

Fiscal Year	Gold		Silver	
	Standard ozs.	Value.	Standard ozs.	Value.
June 30, 1895.	56,846.482	$1,057,608.97	517,716.49	$602,433.73
June 30, 1896.	25,765.424	479,356.73	49,380.49	57,460.93

Of the total amount of silver deposited at New Orleans during the years mentioned, $2,326,740.49 was worn and uncurrent silver coins transferred from the Treasury for recoinage. From the foregoing statement it will readily be seen that the deposits of gold and silver bullion at the Mint at New Orleans are not sufficient to keep the same constantly occupied.

At the present rate of coinage of silver dollars $600,000 per month at New Orleans: there is sufficient bullion on hand, purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, to last for a period of about eight months, so that after that date the only supply of bullion that would be available would be the amount resulting from worn and uncurrent subsidiary silver coins transferred for recoinage.

I would respectfully recommend, therefore, that the New Orleans Mint either be reduced to the condition of an Assay Office and the same appropriation made for it as for the Mint at Denver, Colorado, or the Assay Office at Helena, Montana, or that the appropriation for Wages of Workmen be limited to $40,000. and of Contingent Expenses to $10,000.

There is not sufficient bullion deposited at the Mint at Carson to justify its being kept open as a coinage mint and it should be made an Assay Office. I would respectfully suggest that an Assayer-in-charge be provided for at a compensation of $2,500; an assistant assayer at $1,500; a Melter at $2,000; one clerk at $1,000. Wages of Workmen $10,000, and Contingent Expenses $3,000.

I enclose herewith table showing the number

of fine ounces, cost and coining value of silver bullion purchased under the act of July 14, 1890, on hand at the respective Mints December 1, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Table.

Silver Bullion Purchased Under Act of July 14, 1890, with Cost and Coining Value of Same on Hand at Each Mint December 1, 1896.

Mints	Fine Ounces.	Cost.	Coining value
Philadelphia.	111,953,888.68	$101,332,239.67	$144,748,462.15
San Francisco.	7,351,298.32	6,582,590 21	9,504,708.95
New Orleans.	3,707,734.89	3,183,728.85	4,793,839.03
Carson.	567,981.47	484,710.95	734,359.87
Total	123,580,903.36	$111,553,269.68	$159,781,370.00

December 7, 1896.

J. A. Jones, Esq.,
P. O. Box 2167,
New York City, N. Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter you are respectfully informed that the coinage one dollar gold pieces was discontinued by the Act of September 26, 1890.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 7, 1896.

Hon. R. H. Englis Palgrave,
Belton, Great Yarmouth,
Norfolk, England.

Sir:-

I take great pleasure in acknowledging

the translations of the report on the transactions of the bank of France and Germany made by you, and also the papers on the progress of banking in Great Britain and Ireland during 1895.

I hope to have the pleasure of sending you, in a few days, copies of my report on the Production of Precious Metals for the calendar year 1895, and also of the operations of the Mints and Assay Offices of the United States for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Seventy-six Thousand Four Hundred and Ten $\frac{21}{100}$ Dollars ($76,410.21) in Gold Coin, and Five Hundred and Eleven $\frac{44}{100}$ Dollars ($511.44) in Silver Coin, making a total of Seventy-six Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-one $\frac{65}{100}$ Dollars ($76,921.65) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 25, dated December 4, 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

To the

Honorable Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of Herman Kretz, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the sum of $154,170.47 on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the act of July 14, 1890, and that the bullion fund of such Mint be increased by the transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

To the

Honorable Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have to request that Eugene L. Cox, a Laborer now employed on the Laborers force be detailed for a period of ninety (90) days to this Bureau, for duty in the Assay Laboratory.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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December 8, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Mint at Denver for the months ending November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Dec. 5, 1896.
" rec'd " 8, 1896.

December 8, 1896.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 25, dated Dec. 4, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 25, dated Nov. 30, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $77,136.91; charges $215.26, and net value $76,921.65. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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December 8, 1896.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent expense accounts for the month ending November 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received; viz:

2 Half Dollars	Del. 115 . ,	1.00
Total , ,		$1.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of

December 1896, has been approved for the sum of $1064.60, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$269.60
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	595.00
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	200.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salaries, Wages, and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending November 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

December 8, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 7th instant, enclosing order stating that for the purpose of giving the employes of your institution a whole day on December 26, 1896, and Saturday January 2, 1897, there will be no half holiday on Saturday December 12th

or Saturday December 19th. With all due reference to yourself and the operative officers, I do not think anything would be gained by this, and I would suggest that the usual half-holiday be allowed Saturday December 12th and December 19th, and on December 24th, you will notify the employes that they will not be required to report for duty until December 28th 1896. I think this would be better than to do away with the half holiday named, aside from this, fact the employes of your mint have had so much work to do within the past few months, I think they are entitled to some consideration. This will give you an opportunity to make the necessary repairs.

You can keep open the Cashier's and deposit room half a day on December 26th, and January 2nd.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the sum of $154,170.47 to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the act of July 14, 1890, and that your bullion

fund be increased by the transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

Hon. J. H. Carter,
United States Senate,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

When in the Treasury Department next, I would be glad to have you call at this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 8, 1896.

John W. Woodside, Esq.,
No. 924 Arch Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 7th instant received in regard to marble, and I have referred the same to the Supervising Architect, who has control of the matter. Your client should furnish a sample of the marble without delay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 9, 1896.

To the
Honorable Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will

cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of Overton Cade, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States, at New Orleans, Louisiana, the sum of $201,522.43 on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, and that the bullion fund of such Mint be increased by the transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 9, 1896.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the sum of $201,522.43 on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name, and that your bullion fund be increased by the transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 9, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during

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the Months of December 1896 and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	,	Del. 266	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 267	, .20
Total	,		, $.70

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 116	, 1.00
Total	,		, $1.00

December 9, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.;
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the - Certificate of Deposit No. 9224 for $30,000.- being on account of Minor Coinage Profits, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

- Personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as profits on Minor Coinage.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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December 9, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I return herewith a list of the employes of your Mint, forwarded by you some days since. I do not find the name of Miss Luna E. Gibson whose appointment was approved January 31. I find that you have on your list the name of M. Estelle Gibson, but her name does not appear on the records of this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 9, 1896.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram Confirmed

Could you conveniently arrange to strike experimental pieces Friday. Answer by letter.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

December 9, 1896

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the C. P. R. R. (Southern Pacific Co.) Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of May 1896.

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from Baltimore, Md., to San Francisco of Copper amounting to $67.97, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint 1896:

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

E. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

+ approved and referred + Treasury + + C.P.R.R. (Southern Pacific Co.) + January 1896, from San Francisco to Reno, Nev. + mint supplies + 26¢ + Contingent expenses of your Mint 1896. Duplicate B/L herewith.

+ approved & referred + Treasury + + C.P.R.R. (Southern Pacific Co.) + May, 1896, from San Francisco to Reno, Nev. + mint supplies + $11.32 + + Contingent expenses + 1896. Duplicate B/L herewith.

+ approved & referred + Treasury + C.P.R.R. (Southern Pacific Co.) + April 1896, from San Francisco to Reno, Nev. + mint supplies + $5.31 + Contingent Expenses + 1896. Duplicate B/L herewith.

December 8, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have this day approved and referred to the

Auditor for the Treasury Department for examination and settlement a bill of the Stationery division of the Department, amounting to 75¢ and payable from the appropriation for contingent expenses of your Mint 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

Operlon Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + Auditor +
bill of Stationery division + $36.51 +

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York City, N.Y.

+ + Auditor + a bill
of the Stationery division + $45.54 +

December 9, 1896.

Operlon Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Silver Bullion Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending November 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

over.

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J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.
+ + + Salary, Wages
Contingent + Parting + Refinery + +
Month + November 30, 1896.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.
+ + + Salary, Wages +
Contingent Expense + Month + November 30, 1896.

December 10, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Twenty Thousand One Hundred and Eighty-six $\frac{45}{100}$ Dollars ($20,186.45) in Gold Coin, and Sixty-five $\frac{99}{100}$ Dollars ($65.99) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty-two $\frac{44}{100}$ Dollars ($20,252.44) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, as shown by Memorandum No. 11, dated Dec. 7, 1896 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:
+ + + Assay Office at Helena

+ + Mint at Philadelphia + Forty-two Thousand Six Hundred and Forty-seven 21/100 + ($42,647.21) + Two Hundred and Fifteen 38/100 + ($215.38) + total of Forty-two Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-two 59/100 + ($42,862.59) + + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Helena + Memorandum No. 20 + Dec. 7, 1896 + + +

+ + Assay Office at Boise + Mint at Philadelphia + Twenty-eight Thousand Five Hundred and Ten 15/100 + ($28,510.15) + Two Hundred and Fourteen 54/100 + ($214.54) + total of Twenty-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty-four 69/100 + ($28,724.69) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 21 + Nov. 27, 1896 +

+ + + Assay Office at Boise + Mint at Philadelphia + Thirteen Thousand and Ninety-one 18/100 + ($13,091.18) + One Hundred and Four 76/100 + ($104.76) + Thirteen Thousand One Hundred and Ninety-five 94/100 + ($13,195.94) + Bullion + Assayer in charge + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 22 + Dec. 7, 1896 +

December 10, 1896.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at St. Louis, Mo.,

for the Months ending November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Dec. 7, 1896.
" recd " 10, 1896.

December 10, 1896.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 20, dated Dec. 7, 1896. of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 20, dated Nov. 30, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $42,958.82; charges $96.23, and net value $42,862.59. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Deposit Memorandum No. 11 + Dec. 7, 1896
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 11
+ Nov. 30, 1896 + + +
$20,300.95 + $48.49 + $20,252.46.
+ + + + +

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 21, + Nov. 27, 1896
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 21
+ Nov. 21, 1896 + + +
$28,807.01; + $82.32 + $28,724.69.
+ + + + +

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 22 + Dec. 7, 1896
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 22,
+ Nov. 30, 1896 + + +
$13,234.83; + $38.89, + $13,195.94.
+ + + +

December 10, 1896.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent expense accounts for the months ending November 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 10, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Months of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 286	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 102	40.00
2 Dimes	" 117	.20
Total		$40.20

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Dimes	Del. 89	.20
2 Quar Dollars	" 90	.50
Total		$ .70

December 10, 1896.

Superintendent Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Telegram Confirmed.

Arrange to strike experimental pieces Saturday instead of Friday.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

December 10, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, two accounts of the Union Pacific Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of May 1896, from Council Bluffs to Ogden, Utah, of Ingot Copper, amounting to $72.24 consigned to your care payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1896.

Duplicate bills of lading herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted to same address:-

+ + + account of Chicago and North Western + +

August 1896 + Chicago Ills. to Council Bluffs, Ia., of Ingot Copper + $23.52 + + + B/L herewith.

Similar letters except as noted, to:

E. B. Braden, Esq.
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

+ + + an account of the Minn. & St. Louis R.R. + April 1896. from New York City to St. Paul, Minn + Mint supplies + $3.86 + + Contingent expenses fis. year 1896 Duplicate B/L +

Similar letters to same address: over.

an account of the Minneapolis and St. Louis New York City to St. Paul, Minn. Month of July 1896 of Mint supplies $.82 Contingent Expenses Fiscal year 1897. Duplicate B/L. herewith.

two accounts of the Northern Pacific Months of May June 1896, from St. Paul, Minn. to Helena, Mont. of Mint supplies $8.15 Duplicate bill and B/L herewith.

December 10, 1896.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Referring to your statements for November, of production and deposits and purchases, I find a discrepancy of 1,593 standard ounces gold and 0.53 standard ounces silver between the amounts reported on the statements referred to.

It appears that you credit the amount of jewelers bars deposited as being part of the production of either California or Nevada or both.

Please forward corrected statements at once.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 10, 1896.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:- Please forward immediately your statement

of gold and silver bars manufactured during November 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 10, 1896.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending November 30, 1896.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

December 10, 1896.

Miss Antoinette Mullaney,
#233 15th Street,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Miss Mullaney:-

I take pleasure in enclosing statements of gold and silver Imports and Exports of the United States, 1821-1896, as per your request of the 7th instant.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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December 11, 1896.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to your circular letter of the 7th instant, I have the honor to inform you that the work of this Bureau is all up to date.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Eagles	Del. 48	5.00
2 S. S. Dollars	" 269	2.00
Total		$7.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 103	40.00
2 Half Dollars	" 118	1.00
Total		$41.00

over

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Dimes	,	Del. 91	, .20
2 Half Dollars	,	" 92	, 1.00
		Total	, $1.20

December 11, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of Nov. & Dec. 1896, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.
November 1896,

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.
Nov. & Dec.

December 11, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 5th instant, stating that Messrs Balbach and Co., have declined to accept the contract of 144 barrels of Melters sweeps, I would respectfully suggest that you will issue new proposals, inviting bids.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Silver Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending November 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
F. F. Church, Esq.
Assayer in charge,
U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + Salary Wages
+ Contingent Expense + November 30, 1896.

December 11, 1896.

Superintendent Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram Confirmed.

In addition to your subsidiary and gold coinage, coin as many silver dollars as practicable this month without making overtime.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

December 11, 1896.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, two accounts of the Union Pacific and Missouri River Bridge Co., Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of February 1896, from Council Bluffs to Ogden, Utah, of Mint supplies, amounting to 64¢, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint, fiscal year 1896.

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully;
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted to same address:
+ + + Central Pacific
(Southern Pacific Co.) + February 1896
+ Ogden, Utah to Reno, Nevada +
Mint Supplies + $1.08 + +
Contingent expenses of your Mint, fiscal year 1896.

Similar letters except as noted, to: over.

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E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

+ + + Minneapolis & St. Louis Railway Co., + July & Aug. 1896 + St. Paul, Minn. to Helena, Montana + + $1.36 + + Fiscal year 1897. +

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

+ + + Minneapolis & St. Louis Railway Co., + May 1896, from New York to St. Paul, Minn. of Mint supplies + $2.18 + + + Fiscal year 1896. + +

December 11, 1896.

Hon. T. T. Bingham,
Chairman Sub-Committee,
Legislative Appropriations,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

In reply to your telegraphic communication received from Mr. Courts, clerk to your Committee, asking that I send you today a statement showing the amount and character of the coinage made at the Carson Mint, for the first five months of this fiscal year and the cost of the coinage as compared to that of the San Francisco Mint during the same period, I have the honor to state that no coinage has been made at the Carson Mint since May, 1893. The cost of the coinage at that institution for the fiscal year 1893 was over seven cents per

piece, while at San Francisco, during the same period was only five and a quarter (5 1/4) cents per piece.

During the fiscal year 1895 the cost of the coinage per piece at the San Francisco Mint was three cents per piece and during the fiscal year 1896, it was less than one cent per piece.

As the Mints are required to retain an effective force of workmen, in order to reduce the cost of the coinage to a minimum it is necessary to have on hand at all times, an ample supply of bullion. Within the past twelve years it has been necessary to suspend the coinage operations at the Carson Mint five different times for lack of bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

Prof. W. G. Sumner,
New Haven, Conn.

Sir:

I have been so busily engaged on the two reports issued annually from this Bureau that I have not found time until today, to answer your letter of the 25th ultimo.

I have examined the manuscripts of the Assay Commission, designated under Act of March 3, 1801, for the purpose of inspecting coins of the United States from 1801 to 1829, find that the Commission

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have uniformly reported that they "approved" the gold and silver coins issued at the Mints. They, however, sometimes found that the gold and silver coins varied in weight or fineness from the standard, but were always within the remedy allowed by law.

The legal fineness of all gold and silver coins stamped before 1834 was as follows:-

Gold ___ 916 2/3

Silver ___ 892 4/10

I have noticed the figures given by Noback for list of United States coins, under the law of 1792. I have no reason to question the correctness of his figures. I am unable to offer any explanation of them.

I doubt whether for the period 1801 to 1829 any investigation into the history of the working of the mints would show results differing from those mentioned above.

I have been considering the propriety of having the reports of the Annual Assay Commission published from the earliest to the latest date, in a compact form, and hope to obtain authority from Congress to have this done at an early date.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

W. L. M. Austin, Esq.,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, you are respectfully informed that if you

will send the gold medal you have to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, by express or registered mail, the value of the same will be returned to you, less the mint charges.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

S. L. Crissey, Esq.,
No. 615 14th Street,
City.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 7th instant, I enclose herewith a copy of a letter from the Assayer-in-charge of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, covering the subject matter.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

Harry B. Fox, Esq.,
No 348 N. 6th Street,
Reading, Penna.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, you are respectfully informed that I am unable to give you statistics showing the cost of producing an ounce of gold or silver.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

Miss Margaret E. Kelly,
Care J. J. Valentine,
Framingham, Mass.

Think it best you should return. Leave expires on the thirteenth.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

Telegrams Confirmed.

December 11, 1896.

Hon. C. W. Stone,
House of Representatives.

I will go to Philadelphia this evening, and hope you will be able to come over tomorrow.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

December 11, 1896.

J. M. Mockbee, Esq.,
Englewood, Boone Co.,
Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter, you are respectfully informed that the gold dollar contains exactly 100 cents worth of pure gold.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

John A. Owen, Esq.,
Pomona, California.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 13th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that I am unable

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to give you the amount of ten and five dollar gold pieces now in circulation.

I forward by to days mail a copy of Circular No. 123, which will give you the coinage of the Mint from its organization.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

B. H. Peterson Esq.,
New London, Iowa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 20th ultimo, asking to be informed where you can procure information as to the number of grains of pure gold and silver contained in standard coins of the different countries of the world, I forward you by today's mail, a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1895, and respectfully refer you to pages 409 to 444 inclusive.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

James A. Charles, Esq.,
Washington and Lee University,
Lexington, Virginia.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 9th ultimo, I regret that I am unable to you with the Congressional Record containing the proceedings of Congress in the formulation

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and passage of the coinage acts of 1853 and 1873.

The delay in answering your letter has been owing to the press of business.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

Eugene W. Lawyer, Esq.,
15th U. S. Infantry,
Fort Bayard, N. M.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 11th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that I do not know of any method of obtaining flour gold, other than that of water.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1896.

Rev. Wm. Short,
No. 3692 Pine Street,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, you are respectfully informed that dimes have been coined during the present year at the Mints at Philadelphia, San Francisco and New Orleans.

The coinage of nickel and one cent pieces is, by law, confined to the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1876.

James P. Willett, Esq.,
Postmaster, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith notice of U. S. coin repository No. 1353. I have no knowledge of any such company or association.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 11, 1876.

Mrs. Isabella Woodward,
No 503 S. 12th Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Madam:

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that you can file your application for position as scrub-woman with the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia.

There are no regular blank forms furnished.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 12, 1876.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Bul. Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa., for the month ending

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November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law. See recommendation on abstract disbursements of Contingent expense account.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director.

Accounts sent Dec. 10, 1896.
" recd " 11, 1896.

December 12, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Bul. accounts for the month ending November 30, 1896, with my approval except Voucher #179 Contingent account, bill for gingham, which shows an erroneous calculation in the first item, causing an overcharge of ten cents which I recommend to be disallowed.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Director of the Mint.

December 12, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during

the Month of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 270	, 2.00
2 Half Dollars	,	" 271	, 1.00
Total	,		, $ 3.00

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 93	, 1.00
2 Dimes	,	" 94	, .20
2 Half Dollars	,	" 95	, 1.00
Total	,		, $ 2.20

December 12, 1896.

J. C. Courts,
Clerk, Sub-Committee Legislative Appropriations,
U. S. Senate

Telegram Confirmed.

Mr. Preston is out of the City for the day, and the information relative to the periods coinage was suspended at the Carson Mint cannot be furnished before Monday.

B. F. Butler,
Acting Director Mint.

December 12, 1896.

To the
Editor America and the World,
P. O. Box 456
New York, N. Y.

Sir:- I enclose herewith table similar

to the one you request dated January 1, 1876.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

November 12, 1896.

J. M. Kelly, Esq.,
McDonough, Henry Co.,
Georgia.

Sir:

I have referred your letter of the 10th instant, with burnt money enclosed, to the Treasurer of the United States for action.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

December 12, 1896.

Geo. W. Olney, Esq.,
Editor of the World's Almanac,
P. O. Box 2297, New York, N.Y.

Sir:-

In reply to your request of the 25th ultimo, I take pleasure in enclosing statements desired for the World's Almanac.

Owing to the delay of the printer, I have been unable to forward this information earlier.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

December 12, 1896.

The Tribune Almanac,
New York City, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

I enclose herewith information desired

by you for the Tribune Almanac.

I have referred to the Comptroller of the Currency, statements pertaining to his office.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

December 14, 1896.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury, Ct.

Sirs:-

I have sent you per registered mail today, a box containing medals of Award of the World's Columbian Exposition, returned to this Bureau for correction in the names.

I will thank you to strike new medals with the name correctly placed upon the same, as per corrected list enclosed herewith, and forward to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 14th 1896.

James S. Willett, Esq.
Postmaster, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 12th instant. enclosing sample of the contents of an unlabeled sack of blank forms received at your office. These blanks were intended for the use of the U.S. Assay Office at New York, and I will thank you to cause them to be forwarded.

I enclose herewith franked envelope for the same.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston -

December 14. 1896.

G. A. Crandall Esq.
Superintendent of Documents, Union Building
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, inclosing a clipping relating to the statement of the coinage issued by this Bureau, I send you herewith a copy of the statement that is issued each month by the Bureau. Hereafter statements will be sent you regularly, as issued.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint

December 14, 1896.

John Daggett Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint.
San Francisco. California

Sir.

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the sum of $245,951.24 to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name, on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890. and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a warrant of the same amount.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 14. 1896

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 11th instant.

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enclosing a sample of the medal for the guidance of the Engraver of the Mint in Philadelphia in manufacturing the dies for the proposed medal for good Conduct of the Marine Service. I return herewith the medal and also a copy of the letter of the Engraver.

It would be very desirable if you could furnish a blue print of the bills used by the Marine Corps, as we were led to infer you would do from your letter of the 30th ultimo.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 14th 1896.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of Wm Doggett, Superintendent of the Mint of the U.S. at San Francisco, the sum of two hundred and forty five thousand, nine hundred and fifty-one dollars and twenty-four cents. ($245,951.24) on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the act of July 14. 1890; and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

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December 14, 1896.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refining and Silver Bullion Expense Accounts of the Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at New Orleans for the month ending November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

See certificates on abstract and disbursements Contingent Expenses and Coinage of Silver Bullion in regard to disallowances recommended

R. E. Preston.
Director.

Chief Auditor,
Treasury Department.

These accts were sent Dec. 7. 1896
" " " rec'd " 9. 1896

Similar letter:

XXX the bullion accounts XXX Assay Office at New York for the quarter ending September 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

State accts forwarded Oct. 29. 1896.
" " received " 30, "

December 14, 1896

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting Offices of the Department for examination and settlement your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending September 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Assay Office.
New York.

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December 14th 1896.

Overton Wade Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your salary, wages, Contingent, Refinery, and Coinage & silver bullion accounts for the month, ending November 1896, with my approval except coiners pay-roll & laborers in which I find the extra time credited to McDonough, Connall, and Crew erroneously calculated, resulting in an over-charge of $.03 each in the case of the two first and 32¢ in the case of the last. This is in the silver bullion account. In the Contingent expense account, I have withdrawn petty voucher 167, from the account because of error and recommended the disallowance of amount of $5.00. The voucher will be found herewith enclosed. I desire to say that I have repeatedly seen errors in the calculation of extra time heretofore, but as the differences were only in cents, sometimes for or against the Government they have been passed, but I now wish to say, that the same irregularities will not hereafter be tolerated.

R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 14, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December 1896. and forwarded

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In the Mint for special Assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Double eagles	Del.	104	$40.00
2 half "	"	105	10.00
2 dimes	"	119	.20
Total.			$ 50.20

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:
Overton Cade, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans La.

XXX

2 quar. Dollars del. 96 $.50
Total .50

December 14, 1896

Hon. H. H. Bingham,
House of Representatives.

My Dear Sir:

Will you permit me to correct a very serious mistake made in my letter of the 11th in-stant, wherein I stated that the cost of coinage at the San Francisco Mint for the fiscal year, 1896 was less than one cent per piece, while the fact is, the cost was nearly three cents per piece. At the present rate, however, at which coinage is being conducted, at that institution, that is, to its maximum capacity, I feel satisfied that the cost of coinage for the current year, will be slightly less than one cent.

The manner in which I fell into this error was, that I have recently been endeavoring to arrive at the expense of each operation in coining, commencing with the manufacture of the ingots, and following the same through

the different operations until it comes out in the form of coin. The expense of the room in which the coins are actually struck, is less than one cent per piece.

Regretting the error, I am,

Yours truly,

R. E. Preston.

Director of the Mint.

Telegram:

December 14, 1896

J. C. Courts,

Clerk, Committee on Appropriations,

House of Representatives.

Coinage at Carson Mint was suspended from March first 1879 to August first 1879; from November first 1879 to May first 1880; from April 1st 1881 to October first 1881. From April first 1885 to October first 1886, when the Mint was reopened for the receipt of deposits, but coinage operations were not resumed until October first 1889. Coinage operations were again suspended in May 1893, and have not been resumed. I should have stated to the Committee that this Mint was closed to coinage operations five times in the last twenty years instead of in the last twelve years.

R. E. Preston.

Director of the Mint.

December 15. 1896.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Will you please forward to me a list of books of reference that the Curator of the Cabinet of your Institution now has. As I informed you, we have a number of books in this Bureau or coins, which I propose sending to your Mint, and would like to know what books the Curator has so as

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To avoid duplication.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 15. 1896.

Philip Lo. Lehew, Esq.
Care of Rosenbaum & Co.
Nos. 510-518 Market Street.
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Sir.

Your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing twenty-five (25) dollars with the request that twenty-five silver dollars of the coinage of 1895, be sent you is received, and the same referred to the Treasurer of the United States, who will forward coins as requested!

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 15th 1896.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find seven dollars and fifty cents ($7.50) in mutilated gold coin, for which please send me by return registered mail its coining value.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 15th 1896

Messrs. Lemcke & Buchner.
812 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:-

You will please renew the subscriptions of the Bureau of the Mint for 1897, to the periodicals named in the enclosed

list.

You will discontinue sending us "Queensland Blue Book" as well as any further numbers of "Lorenzo, Catalogue de la Librairie Francaire."

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Nov 1897.

Deutsches Handels. Archiv	$5 40
Jahr bücher für National Ökonomie	7 50
Annales des Mines	6 50
Bulletin Russe de Statist	6 25
Economiste	10 00
" Européen	8 00
Journal des Economiste	9 00
Bankers Magazine	6 00
Board of Trade Journal	1 80
Economist	12 00
Journal Statist Soc	5 80
Mining World	9 00
Statist	6 80
Mexican Financier	6 00

December 15. 1896.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to state in reply to your letter of the fourth instant, that J. B. Askins of this Bureau has the following standing:

Efficiency	.85
Conduct	.90
Punctuality	.90
Average	.88⅓

Respectfully yours. R. E. Preston

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December 15. 1896

Superintendent U. S. Mint.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir:

Your letter of the 7th instant, calling attention to some of the employes of your Mint whose appointments had never been submitted has been received, and in reply I would say that having furnished the Civil Service Commission with the number of employes in your Institution whose appointments had been approved up to the twenty-first day of November, and whose names were borne on the registers of this Bureau, there is no way in which the names of the persons mentioned in your letter can be embraced or placed in the classified service and especially as they are employed, according to your own admission in the Clerk's Department.

I was not aware, until the receipt of your letter that there were so many persons employed, so constantly whose names had not been submitted for approval. It will be necessary for you to discontinue the services of these parties at the close of this month.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

W. M. McFarland, Esq.
Secretary of State
Des Moines, Iowa

December 15. 1896.

Sir:

Your letter of the 9th instant, has been received and in reply you are respectfully informed that having received the medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition, you can have electrotypes of the same made to be used as proposed by you, by any person you may select.

Pending the delivery of the medals, the American Type Founders' Co., of Philadelphia, were authorized to make the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 15. 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Half dollars	del. 120	$1.00
	Total	$1.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 15. 1896.

J. W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your salary, wages contingent and refinery expense accounts for the month ending November 30, 1896. with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 15. 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 14th instant, I find in getting credit of voucher # 179 of your Account for Contingent expenses for the month of November, I have to say that the price was taken at .422 per oz. instead of .427. At the latter price the calculation of the bill is correct, and I shall recall any recommendation for disallowance.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 15. 1896

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the U.S. Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Two Hundred & Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.-) and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said Institution with the First National, Colorado Banks National & Denver National Banks, Denver, Colo.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 15. 1896.

W. J. Probert, Esq.
Assayer U.S. Mint.
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund

By your Institution be increased by a transfer of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000) & that the same be placed to your credit with the First National, Colorado National and Denver National Banks Denver Colorado.

Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 15, 1896

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the salary, wages, contingent & refinery expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at Carson Nev. for the month ending November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 15th 1896.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific Railway Co., for the transportation in the month of February 1896, from New York City to Council Bluffs, Iowa, of Mint supplies, amounting to $.694 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1896.

Duplicate Bill herewith.

Very respectfully
R.E. Preston.
Director.

J.W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Carson, Nev.

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December 16. 1896.

Herman Kuhy Esq.
Superintendent U.S Mint.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

I return herewith sample sheet of Supplies Ledger on which you will notice I have reduced the size of the space allotted to several items so as to allow the work to be prepared according to the standard size adopted by the Department (11 by 17) following your annual statement of expenditures as a guide.

I will thank you to have prepared a clean copy showing the exact size of each space as indicated on the sheet and the items to be arranged alphabetically.

Under the law all blank books for use in the Departments must be prepared by the Public Printer.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896

William H. Raw. Esq.
#1324 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

Inclosed please find Treasury Draft for $33.75 in payment of your bill for photographs.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 16th 1896.

Edgar B. Dage, Esq.
New York Assay Office

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find Treasury draft in your favor for 5.00 for work recently done for this Bureau.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director.

December 16. 1896

W. J. Babbe, Esq.
Attorney at Law. Lima, Ohio.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Department publishes no lists on the premiums of coins, and in order to obtain the numismatic value of the cents and half cents of 1804, it would be necessary for you to apply to some numismatist or coin-dealer.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896.

H. G. Ivory, Esq.
Care U.S. Assay Office.
New York City, N.Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 15th instant received. I will endeavor to obtain for you the information desired in reference to the production of the Boise Basin in Idaho.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 16. 1896.

Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.
Keyser Building. Baltimore. Md.

Sir.

I will thank you to inform me the lowest price at which you will deliver ten (10) tons of best ingot copper to the Quartermaster of the U.S. Army in your city for shipment to the Mint of the U.S. at San Francisco.

Respectfully Yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896

Isabel Whitehead Esq.
Assayer. Bureau of the Mint.
Washington. D.C.

Sir.

You are hereby authorized and directed to proceed to New York for the purpose of purchasing such supplies for the Laboratory as may be required and to arrange the re-modelling of the gas furnaces used.

While in New York you will visit the Assay Office and confer with the Superintendent upon the matters I have communicated to you verbally.

While engaged in this service your traveling and other necessary expenses will be paid upon your rendering an account of the same.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896

Lee Hagan, Esq.
127 Houston Street.
Atlanta Georgia

Sir:

Your letter of the 14th. instant advising of the shipment by express of the piece of gold has been received and the package has been delivered by the Express Company.

I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia with instructions to remit you the proceeds less the Mint and Express charges.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Director of the Mint.
December 16. 1896.

J. D. Ferguson, Esq.
Little Rock, Arkansas.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 7th. instant, you are respectfully informed that there is no charge at the Mints for converting gold bullion, that is bullion containing nine parts of pure gold and one part of copper alloy, into coin. When bullion is brought to the Mints that is not of standard fineness, and requires parting and refining in order to eliminate the base metals, a charge is made equal to the expenses; also for the copper it may be necessary to add for alloy.

I forward you by this days mail a copy of Department Circular #123, I would respectfully refer you to pages 60-61 for further information.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.

December 16. 1896.

Richard B. Owen Esq
Editor "El Minero Mexicano"
City of Mexico.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 30th ultimo I would say that as soon as the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1896, has been received from the Printer, a copy will be sent you, and you will be privileged to make any use you may desire of its contents.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896

Cavill Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury. Conn

Sirs:

You will please strike and forward as early as practicable the following medals of award:-

G. B. Ellis & Sons.
L. Gottberg & Bro.

Cases should be supplied with these medals.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896.

N. W. Lathrop Co.
Jackson Co. Hanover Michigan.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant, you are respectfully informed that the silver dollar contains 412½ grains of silver nine-hundred fine, and in order to obtain a silver dollar of this fineness, you would have to deposit

37 1/4 grains of pure silver.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896.

W. S. Kimball, Esq.
Rochester, Illinois

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, you are respectfully informed that when it becomes necessary to add copper for alloy to a deposit of gold bullion, in order to reduce it to standard metal, a charge is made for the copper it is actually necessary to add at the rate of two cents per ounce. The alloy used in the coinage of both gold and silver is copper.

The alloy neither adds to nor detracts from the value of a coin and is simply placed in it in order to harden the metal as it has been found that pure gold or silver loses very rapidly by abrasion.

The only charges on a deposit of pure gold at the Mints would be for the alloy used.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896.

O. J. Regan, Esq.
Iowa City, Iowa

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, you are respectfully informed that the only Assayer that I know of in Chicago or St. Louis, is Off. Guy Bryan, Assayer-in-Charge U. S.

Assay Office, St. Louis, Missouri.
Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896.

Mr. P. Bowen, Esq.
1646 Arapahoe Street.
Denver. Colo.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 21st ultimo, you are respectfully informed that there is no form of application for a position as a Watchman at the Mint in your City. Your client should write any application and forward the same to the Civil Service Commission as the positions in the Mint are now included in the Classified Service.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896.

Mr. A. Ritter, Esq.
93 West Lake Street.
Chicago, Illinois

Sir.

Referring to your letter of the 11th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that the Department has no copies of the so-called "Bankers Baltimore Plan" as this document was never published by the Government but by the Bankers Association.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 16, 1896

Superintendent U. S. Mint.
San Francisco, California

Sir.

Referring to the disallowances of your account for expenses in visiting the East, for the reason that you failed to furnish hotel bills, I would state that I have had the Secretary of the Treasury waive in this case, the regulation requiring hotel bills, & the amount will be passed to your credit by the accounting Officer, of which you will receive due notice.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16, 1896.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco,
California.

Sir: Referring to your letter of the 30th ultimo you are respectfully informed that the names of all persons borne on the official register of this Bureau on the twenty-first of November last have been furnished the Civil Service Commission, and therefore the Statistician at your Institution is embraced in the list.

The classification sent you was gotten up in a great hurry, and has since been amended.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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December 16. 1896.

A. P. Hobby Esq.
Hayti. West Indies.

Sir.

In reply to the queries contained in your let. of the 2nd instant, you are respectfully informed:

1.- The value of the Haytian gourde given in the table published in the Worlds Almanac to which you refer, is the value of the Haytian gold gourde, provided for by the Haytian law of Septem. 24th, 1880, containing 1.6129 grams or 24.890 grains of the fineness of .900, and containing 22.401 grains of pure gold; and is the official valuation of the gold gourde, to which the Haytian silver gourde would also be equal, if the mone-tary system provided for by the law above men-tioned existed not only on paper, but in fact.

2.- As however, the actual currency of Hayti is irredeemable paper, the Haytian gourde is not estimated by the Treasury Department at the value attributed it in the text copied into the Worlds Almanac but at the value given it in the certificates of our consuls there, attached to invoices of goods imported from Hayti. This latter, however, is a variable one.

3.- Fractions of the gourde are estimated at a value proportional to the gourde as certified by the Consuls.

4.- Invoices made out in terms of the Haytian gold gourde would be calculated by the United States Treasury at the value attached to them in the list in the Worlds Almanac; but since, as a matter of fact Hayti is on a paper basis, they are not to be calculated.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 16. 1896

Henry H. Locher, Esq.
43 East Tenth Street.
New York. N.Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that according to the most recent authority the "Standard Dictionary" bimetallism is defined as follows:

"The concurrent use of both gold and silver as money at a fixed relative value established by law: also the doctrine advocating such use."

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896

C. G. Buckens, Esq.
Yorkstown, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th instant, enclosing a design and model of an idea to prevent the counterfeiting of coins has been received, and I have referred the same to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, for examination and report.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16, 1896.

J. N. Brown, Esq.
Cashier Adams National Bank.
San Antonio, Texas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant, you are respectfully informed that there were on

hand at the Mints December 1st. 1896. 123,580,903
fine ounces of fine silver bullion, purchased under
the Act of July 14th 1890, the cost of which was
$114,553,269, and the coining value of the same in
silver dollars being $159,781,370. This bullion
would therefore, when coined give a seigniorage
of $48,228,101.

The silver bullion purchased under the
Act of July 14, 1890, is carried on the books of the
Treasury at cost and the seigniorage is declared
at the close of each month.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

(one enclosure)

December 16. 1896

E. B. Stevens Esq.
Cashier, First National Bank,
Parsons, Kansas

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 17th ultimo, you
are respectfully informed that under the law,
the Mint cannot issue pattern pieces and the
submitted pieces for the Silver Coins, struck from
the various alloys will, as soon as the Coinage
Committee of the House of Representatives have
examined them, be destroyed.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 16. 1896

J. A. Church. Esq.
Assayer in Charge.
U.S. Assay Office
Boise, Idaho.

Sir: Have examined and referred to

the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your salary, wages and contingent expense accounts for the month ending November 30, 1896. with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R.E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

December 16/96

Similar letter to:
W.E. Audrey, Esq.
Assayer in Charge
U.S. Assay Office, Charlotte, N.C.

December 16/ 1896.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your communication of the 15th instant the name of Wm. A.D. Estey, Melter in the Melter & Refiner department of your institution resigned, will be dropped from the "Official Register" of this Bureau from the 31st instant.

Very respectfully,
R.E. Preston
Director.

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Superintendent U.S.
Assay Office.
New York.

December 16. 1896.

Superintendent Mint U.S.
New Orleans. La

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayers report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your

Mint during the Month of December 1896. and forward-
ed for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal
limits of Tolerance.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

December 16, 1896

Herman Kuhn. Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia Pa.

Sir.

The following coins received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896. and forward-
ed to the Bureau of the Mint for Special Assay.
have been received viz:

2 U.S. Dollars	Del.	273	$ 2.00
2 quar. "	"	274	50
Total			$ 2.50

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:
John Daggett. Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal

2 double Eagles	Del	106	$ 40.00
2 Half dollars	"	121	1.00
Total			$41.00

Overton Wade Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

2 Quarter dollars Del. 97 $.50
Total $.50

December 16, 1896.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the salary, wages and Contingent expenses accounts of the Assayer-in-Charge of the U.S. Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, for the month ending November 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director.

First Auditor.
Treasury Department.
"These accts were sent Dec. 5. 1896
" " " rec'd " 10-1896.

Similar letter to:
x x x x at Charlotte, N.C. x x x x
These accts were sent Dec. 7. 1896
" " " rec'd " 9. "

December 16, 1896.

J.W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint.
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 3909-3910 dated December 7, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco. Shipment No. 6, dated Dec. 7, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and

the gross value found to be $53.636.98 charges $5.57 and net value $53,631 41 for the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion fund. of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:

J. H. Emmels,
Assayer-in-Charge.
Assay Office. Boise, Idaho.

××× No. 23 dated Dec. 11, 1896 ××× to the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 23 dated Dec. 5, 1896 ××× $10,214 44 charges $ 30 00 & net value $10.184 49 ××××××××××

E. B. Braden Esq.
Assayer-in-charge. U.S. Assay Office.
Helena, Mont.

No. 21 dated Dec 11, 1896 ×× Shipment No. 21 - dated Dec. 5-1896 ×× $31,918 90, charges $85.12 net value $31,833 78 ××××××××××××

December 16, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Thirty-one - Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty-one 89/100 Dollars ($31,421 89) in Gold Coin, and Four Hundred and Eleven 89/100 Dollars ($411 89) in Silver Coin, making a total of

Thirty-one Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-one $\frac{78}{100}$ Dollars ($31,833 $\frac{78}{100}$) being the net-value of Bullion herewith forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 21, dated Dec. 11, 1896. of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to same address:

x x x Assay Office at Boise x x x Ten thousand one Hundred and Five $\frac{89}{100}$ Dollars ($10,105 $\frac{89}{100}$) x x Seventy-eight $\frac{60}{100}$ dollars ($78 $\frac{60}{100}$) x x total of Ten thousand one hundred & eighty-four $\frac{49}{100}$ Dollars ($10,184 $\frac{49}{100}$) x x Bullion xx Assayer x Assay Office at Boise x Memorandum No. 23 x Dec. 11, 1896. x

---

x x Mint at Carson x x San Francisco, x Fifty three thousand Six Hundred & Thirty one $\frac{41}{100}$ ($53,631 $\frac{41}{100}$) in gold coin, being the net value x x x Superintendent x Mint at Carson x Memorandum No. 3909-3910 x Dec 7, 1896 x x

---

December 17, 1896.

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Supt. U. S. Assay Office.
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 16th instant containing information in regard to the deposit of gold bullion in your office from Peru is received & I have to thank you for the same.

Hope that this is simply the Commencement.

R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 17. 1896

C. W. Lovesay. Esq.
Rochester, Minnesota.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, you are respectfully informed that every dollar in gold issued from the Mints of the United States contains 23.22 grains of pure gold. The alloy in a coin neither adds to nor detracts from the value of a coin but is placed in it for the purpose of hardening it, as it has been found that pure gold or silver will abrade too rapidly.

The average price paid for silver purchased under the Act of July 14. 1890, last is $0.92.44 The cost of the pure silver (371¼) grains) contained in the dollar was $0.71½. At this rate the seigniorage would be $0.28½ on each dollar coined.

The silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890. is carried on the books of the Treasury at cost and the seigniorage is declared in each months coinage and paid into the Treasury.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 17. 1896

Herman Kuhn. Esq.
Supt. U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia Pa.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant you are hereby authorized to purchase in your city 15000 Shipping tags, best quality linen, at $3.64 per thousand for $54.60.

Samples returned herewith.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 17, 1896.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 U.S. Dollars.	Del. 275	$ 2.00
Total		$ 2.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to.

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 107	$ 40.00
Total		$ 40.00

December 17, 1896.

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Assay Office.
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a Deposit of five million dollars ($5,000,000), and after the same

be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 17. 1896.

John Daggett Esq.
Asst. Asst U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your salary-wages. Contingent-Refinery & Coinage & Bullion accounts for the month ending November 30th 1896. with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 17. 1896.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement. the salary, wages. Contingent, refinery and silver bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at San Francisco. Cal. for the month ending November 30. 1896, rendered in one for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Returned Dec. 9. 1896
Returned Dec. 15 1896.

December 17. 1896.

Hon John G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at New York be increased in the sum of Five million Dollars ($5,000,000) by a transfer of that amount in gold coin & that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said Institution with the Assistant Treasurer of the U.S. at New York.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Telegram:

December 18. 1896

Assayer Mint.
Denver, Colorado.

Funds placed to your credit at Chicago by wire.

R. E. Preston.
Director

Chief Treasury Dep't.

December 18. 1896.

To the
Quartermaster U.S. Army.
Baltimore, Maryland

Sir:

I will thank you to receive from the Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Company, ten (10) tons of the best ingot copper for shipment to the Mint of the U.S. at San Francisco, California.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 18, 1896

Andrew Mason Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Assay Office,
New York, New York.

Sir.

The Government contemplates lighting the Sub-Treasury with electricity from the plant now in the Custom House and it has been suggested that the Assay Office building could be lighted by electricity at a cost considerably less than at present by the construction of a subway from the Custom House to the Sub-Treasury and Assay Office.

Will you please give me your opinion as to the desirability of this proposition.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18, 1896.

L. G. Behrens Esq.
Portsmouth, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

Your letter of the 8th instant was referred to the Superintendent of the Mint of the U.S. at Philadelphia for report.

I enclose herewith copy of the report made by the Engraver of that Institution. I also return the coin sent by you.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18. 1896

Alfred Coxe. Esq.
Cashier Boise City National Bank.
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir. Your letter of the 8th instant complain-

ing of the unjust discrimination against your bank at the hands of Wm. Church, Assayer in Charge of the Assay Office in your city, has been received, and shall have attention without delay.

Respectfully yours.

R. E. Preston.

Director of the Mint.

December 18, 1896

Copy:- Hon. Herman Kuhn.
Superintendent.

Div.

I have examined the coin submitted by Wm. Bockus, with his letter, in which he suggests inserting a wire across the face of our coins to prevent Counterfeiting.

I cannot think this would be a remedy, as the dangerous counterfeit is not the cast piece, which is easily detected, but the struck coin good silver, and in that case the wire would offer no great difficulty to the counterfeiter, and therefore would be no preventative.

There are other views of this suggestion by Wm. Bockus.

While it is represented to be a simple process, and may be, to do a small number of pieces, it is easily to be seen it would considerably complicate and certainly retard our operations, when required to be done in the vast amounts in which the Mint has to deal.

Another view suggested by the Assayer, in the case of coinage, we should have this foreign matter the wire, of whatever material of metal it might be, enter into the alloy when melted down, which might form a brittle metal necessitating melting and parting, all of which would take time, and consequently more

expense and less product.

If we consider the appearance of our coinage, I think all will admit that to run a streak of a different color across the face of Liberty cannot be done without greatly defacing the coin: and it would be impossible to regulate where the streak should come or how it would happen in one part of the coin, and another in another part.

It might largely help the counterfeiter to dispose of his coins as many might suppose a streak running across the coin to be infallible evidence of the genuineness of the coins.

I can therefore see nothing favorable in the suggestion.

Without entering into all the other objections I may say there are a number.

To demonstrate how easy it is for the counterfeiter to produce the same results I have struck a small medal with a separate piece of metal of a different character across the one side, by simply laying a piece of iron wire on the planchet before striking the medal. I submit the same for your inspection.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18. 1896

Ellis D. Lamb Esq.
Martins Ferry Ohio.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, you are respectfully informed that 24 karat gold is worth $20.67 per ounce.

You can dispose of any gold that you may have by forwarding the same to the

Mint at Philadelphia. which would be received and settled for on the mint assay only.

Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18, 1896.

J.S. Jannech, Esq.
#213 East 44th Street.
New York. N.Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant you are respectfully informed that at present we do not contemplate purchasing any adjusting machines for the use of the Mints. It is probable, however, that when the new Mint at Philadelphia is completed a number of the most improved machines will be purchased.

Respectfully Yours
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint

December 18, 1896.

Edmund Crawley Esq.
Cor. First & C. Street.
Enid. O.T.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, You are respectfully informed that all silver bullion purchased by the Government is carried on the books of the Treasury at cost. And the seigniorage is declared on each months Coinage.

At the average price paid for silver purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, namely $0.92.44, the cost of the bullion contained in a silver dollar (371 1/4 grains) would be

$0.7 1/2 which would give a seigniorage on each dollar Coined of $0.25-/2.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18, 1896

Joseph Wharton, Esq.
206 Philadelphia Bank Building.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, would say that I have endeavored to procure nickel coins of Austria Hungary, but I have been unable to obtain information as to the cost of these blanks to the Government of that Country.

Would be glad if you could furnish me with other specimens.

There is no impropriety whatever, in your making any statement you may wish either to the Coinage Committee or to this Bureau, as we desire to get all the information possible on this subject. If it appears that pure nickel or any other alloy is better suited for our minor coinage than the present alloys, I for one, would favor its adoption.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18, 1896.

Baltimore Copper, Smelting & Rolling Co.
Keyser building, Baltimore, Maryland.

Sir:

You offer to deliver the bars of the best ingot copper to the Quartermaster in your City for shipment to the U. S. Mint at San Francisco, at eleven and one-half cents

($0.11½) per pound is accepted. I will thank
to deliver the copper as early as practicable,
inviting your account receipted in duplicate to
Bureau.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mi

December 18th 1896

Overton Wade. Esq.
Supt. Mint. U.S.
New Orleans La

Sir.

Referring to letter of the 16th signed by T
M. Whitwell acting Superintendent. I would say
the object of calling attention to errors is not to
take contention but induce the correct render
of the accounts and to advise of the disallo
recommended. In the case of Weir's overtime
such as he was credited with could be allowed
The bill of Miss Boden could not be passed i
present shape, and it was enclosed in the
envelope as my letter of the 14th instant.

In the matter of half cents you can
regard or allow as the case may warrant, bu
pay roll must not show the half cents.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director.

December 18, 1896

Overton Wade Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans. La.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint
during the month of December, 1896, and
forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint, f

Special assay Ingots been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	Del. 98	$	.50
2 Dimes	" 99		.20
2 S.S. Dollars	" 100		2.00
	Total	$	2.70

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to.
Herman Kuhn, Esq
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

XXX 2. S.S. Dollars	Del	276	$	2.00
2 Quar "	"	277		.50
	Total.		$	2.50

December 18, 1896.

W.J. Pickett, Esq.
Assayer U.S. Mint
Denver.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars ($200,000) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18, 1896

Hon. J.G. Carlisle.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Two hundred

Thousand Dollars ($200,000) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer-in-Charge, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U.S. at Chicago, by wire.

R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 15, 1896.

Sir.

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia for the Quarter ending Sept. 30, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by Law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Date acct forwarded Dec. 30-1896
" " received " 31-1896.

December 18, 1896

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement your bullion accounts for the Quarter ending Sept. 30, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director.

Herman Kelly, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia

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December 18, 1896

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Seventy-six Thousand One Hundred and Twelve $\frac{29}{100}$ Dollars ($76,112.\frac{29}{100}$) in Gold Coin, and Five Hundred and Thirty-one $\frac{06}{100}$ Dollars ($531.\frac{06}{100}$) in Silver Coin, making a total of Seventy-six Thousand Six Hundred and Forty-three $\frac{35}{100}$ Dollars ($76,643.\frac{35}{100}$), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in Charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 26 dated Dec. 14, 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 18, 1896.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U. S. Mint
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 126, dated Dec. 14, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 26, dated Dec. 11, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $76,856.\frac{86}{100}$; Charges $213.\frac{51}{100}$, and net value $76,643.\frac{35}{100}$. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.

December 18, 1896.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, on account of the (Star Union Line) Vandalia Railway Co. for the transportation in the Months of Oct. & Nov. 1896, from Washington, D.C to Cash. St. Louis, Ills, of Stationary, amounting .79¢, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint, Fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate bill & B/L herewith.

Very respectfully
R. E. Preston
Director

W. J. Puckett, Esq
Assayer in Charge.
U.S. Mint, Denver, Colo.

December 19, 1896.

Preston Cade, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 U.S. Dollars	Oct 1st	$ 2.00
	Total	$ 2.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 19. 1896.

W. J. Puckett Esq.
Assayer U.S. Mint.
Denver. Colo.

Sir.

The sample of official letter paper forwarded with your requisition for blank books and forms is returned herewith.

You are again informed that it is necessary should you desire this paper to attach it to your requisition for stationery and forward it to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint

December 19. 1896.

Miss Eleanor Waren.
Du Quoin Illinois.

Miss:

In reply to your postal of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that the coin you have in your possession is the Canadian ten-cent piece and is not rare.

The Government pays no premiums on any coins whatever, and you could not obtain a premium on this coin anywhere.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 19. 1896.

Wm Doggett. Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Mint
San Francisco. California.

Sir.

Enclosed herewith find Check No. 6641 on Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, in your favor for $886.20 the same being the value

of special assay coins forwarded by you to this Bureau for the quarter ended September 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston -
Director of the Mint -

December 19, 1896.

Superintendent U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find check No. 24865 on Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia in your favor for $304.80, the same being the value of special assay coins forwarded by you to this Bureau for the quarter ended September 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston -
Director of the Mint.

December 19, 1896.

Superintendent U. S. Mint -
New Orleans. La.

Sir.

Enclosed herewith find check No. 5032 on Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New Orleans, for $70., the same being the value of special assay coins forwarded by you to this Bureau for the quarter ended September 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston -
Director of the Mint -

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December 19, 1896.

H. H. Veatch, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U.S. Assay Office.
Boise, Idaho.

Sir.

Complaint has been made to this Bureau by Mr. Alfred Eoff, Cashier of the Boise City National Bank, of unjust treatment at your hands, and discrimination against his bank, rendering it difficult and embarrassing to transact the necessary business of the bank with the Assay Office.

The specific charge made by Mr. Eoff is, that you refuse to make the usual customary entries on Assay Memorandum for re-deposit charges on certain classes of Bullion deposits made by him, while according to your own admission, these charges are entered on all assay memorandums for deposit by other persons than the Boise City National Banks. Mr. Eoff attributes your action to the fact that he openly opposed your appointment as Assayer in Charge.

The Assay Office is a Government institution, and all persons doing business with the same are entitled to equal privileges and must be treated alike without any discrimination whatever.

You are required and must accord all persons doing business with your institution the same facilities, giving the same information to all alike.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 19, 1876.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

With a view of determining with accuracy, the gold and silver contents of importations from Mexico, and other countries, into the port of New York, of base bullion, silver lead bullion, copper matte, copper regulus, and gold and silver ores, I have the honor to request that from and after the first proximo, the Collector of Customs at the port of New York be instructed to deliver samples from all such importations to the Superintendent of the United States Assay Office at New York, who will cause an assay of the same to be made and report the gold and silver contents to this Bureau.

The Collector should be instructed to furnish with each sample, a statement showing the number of pounds or tons of base bullion, etc in the cargo.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 19, 1876.

Hon. Peter J. Clay
House of Representatives.

Sir.

I have the honor to reply to your letter of the 18th instant as follows:

In case of a deposit of standard gold bullion, that is bullion containing nine parts of pure metal and one of copper alloy, no charge is made at the mints for converting the same into coin. But it is seldom that standard bullion is deposited at the Mints. When bullion other than standard

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is deposited, a charge is made for parting and refining; refining being the elimination from the bullion of all base metals and parting being the separation of any silver that may be contained in the bullion.

The charges for these operations vary according to the actual expenses. When it is necessary to add copper for alloy, a charge of two cents per ounce is made for the amount actually added to the deposit. The depositor receives in gold coin, the full value of the gold contained in his bullion, less the charges as indicated above.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 27, 1896.

Burton Leade, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896. and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 U.S. Dollars	Del.	102	$ 2.00
2 Dimes	"	103	.20
Total			$ 2.20

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to.
John Daggett.
Supt. San Francisco, Cal.

xx 4 Double Eagles	Del.	109 + 110	$ 80.00
Total			$ 80.00

Herman Kutz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.
X X X 2 quar. Dollars Del 280. $.50
Total $ .50

Telegram:

December 21, 1896

Superintendent U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, California.

Shippers of last gold from Australia state you decline to make the usual advance of ninety percent on the value. Please report fully the facts in the case.

R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Chief Treasury Department.

December 21, 1896.

Messrs. J. L. Lyons & Co.
Druggists, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Sirs:

Referring to your letter of recent date in reference to your account for supplies furnished the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, during the last fiscal year, I would say that this bill was approved and referred to the accounting officer for settlement on the first of August last, and was mislaid in the Auditor's office. It has been found, and a warrant for the amount, $110.70, will issue in payment of the same, and a draft for the amount will be mailed you without further delay.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 21. 1896.

Publishers of the
Journal Commerce & Commercial Bulletin.
No. 17 & 19 Beaver Street.
New York City N.Y.

Gentlemen.

Enclosed please find Treasury draft for $12.00 in payment of your bill for subscription to the Journal of Commerce & Commercial Bulletin for 1 year to December 4. 1897.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 22 1896.

Charles E. Barber Esq.
Engraver U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Barber:-

Inclose herewith a letter from Mr. Calvo the Minister of Costa Rica, in regard to the preparation of some dies for coinage which it is proposed to execute for that country. You will also find enclosed a photograph of the designs.

Please inform me how soon you would be able to engrave the dies for the coins indicated, and what the cost of the same would be.

In a conversation with Mr. Calvo some days since, I understood him to say that it was eventually intended to strike five denominations of silver coins, and they desire to have the dies engraved in this country, as much like the price as reasonable as you can.

Please return Mr. Calvo's letter with your reply.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 22, 1896.

Claude M. Johnson Esq.
Director, Bureau Engraving & Printing.

Sir:

I would be pleased if you will furnish this Bureau with two copies of the catalogue printed by your Bureau of the list of Awards of the World's Fair.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director.

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December 27, 1896.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia. Pennsylvania.

Sir:

Repeying to the conversation had with you in regard to a number of books relating to coins in the library of this Bureau, which I proposed to send for use in the Cabinet of your Mint, I have to advise you that a package, containing the following books has been sent you:-

Sipfle Bibliotheca Numaria
Humphreys Coin Collector Manual 2 vols.
English Silver Coins.
Akerman's Coins of the Romans.
Relating to Britain.
Humfrey's English Coins.
Akerman's London Tokens.
Montagu's Copper Coins of England.
Coins of the Ancients.
Williams on Coins.
De Monetis et re Numa.
Kenyon's Gold Coins of England.
Visitador de Oro Plata.
Coin Collector's Journal. 1876 to 1887 - 10 vols
Gilda Anni Jubrorum.
Handbook of the Coinage of Scotland.
Hawkins Silver Coins of England.
The Coin Book.
Dictionary of Roman Coins.
Le Blanc Traité Historique des Monnoyes de France.
Types of Greek Coins.
Icones vitae dogia Imperatorum Romanorum.
Smith on Roman Metals.
Bonneville Traite des Monnaies D'or et d'argent.

I also send you Haydn's Dictionary of

Dates, and the Coinage Laws from 1792 to 1894.
A copy of "U.S. Government" by Sampson, and I can send you, if it would be of any service a copy of Johnson's Encyclopaedia, six volumes.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 23, 1896.

Collector of Customs,
Cape Vincent, N.Y.

Sir:-

The report during the month of October the exportation of $30. in United States gold coin. Please inform me if the report as rendered is correct.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 23 1896.

To the Collector of Customs.
Galveston, Texas.

Sir:

During October 1896, your report to this Bureau the importation of 753 dollars the value of goes, and $366 dollars, the value of silver contained in base bullion and the same amounts of exports of foreign bullion.

Please inform me if the amounts as reported as correct.

Your statements for November have not been received with the exception of Form No. 524 Exports of Domestic Bullion and Coin

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director.

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

December 22, 1896.

D. Lyson Jones Esq.
Montgomery Jones & Co.
The Atlantic, Brunswick Street.
Liverpool. England.

Sir:

In answer to your communication of the 9th instant, referred to this Bureau for reply, I take pleasure in enclosing tables giving the desired information.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of Mint.

December 22, 1896.

W. E. Anney Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge.
Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sir:

I would thank you to furnish me the addresses of the following refineries:—

"Rosas Mine Chlorination Works"
"Hall Mine"
"Blacksburg Sulphu. Acid works"

and any other works that you may have knowledge of.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 22, 1896.

Andrew J. Mason Esq.
Supt. U.S. Assay Office.
Dahlonega, N.C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith list of private refineries, manufacturing bars for use in the Industrial Arts, which I wish you would examine and make such corrections and additions as are necessary.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of Mint.

December 17, 1896.

Herman Kutz Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The following coins received at your Mint during the month of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received viz:—

2	U.S. Dollars	Dec. 28th	$2.00
			$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of Mint.

Similar letter to John Daggett, Supt. U.S. Mint.
San Francisco — December —

2	Double Eagles	Dec 11th	$4.00
			4.00

December 7th, 1896.

Wellcome H. Lawton Esq.
P.O. Box 313. Poughkeepsie. N.Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 1st instant to the Comptroller of the Currency has been referred to this Bureau and in reply I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully refer you to page 17, where you will find the bullion value of the silver dollar from 1837 to June 30, 1896. For the period anterior to 1837. I would refer you to the table of Commercial Ratios, on page 19, from which you will readily see that from 1792, when the Mint was established, to 1873 inclusive, the bullion value of the silver dollar was greater than its face value.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 7th, 1896.

John Daggett Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

I wish you would send me the names and addresses of all Refineries or Smelting Works, especially plants erected for the treatment of ores by the cyanide process, that you may have any knowledge of either in your own State or adjoining States.

I desire to make a more thorough examination if possible, than ever before of the production of the precious metals for 1896.

R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to,

E. B. Braden, Assayer U.S. Assay Office
Helena, Montana.

W. J. Pucker Esq. Assayer U.S. Assay Office.
Denver, Colorado.

F. F. Church, Esq. Assayer U.S. Assay Office
Boise, Idaho.

J. W. Adams Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Carson, Nevada.

December 22, 1896.

Charles

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

December 23. 1896.

Telegram:-

Superintendent U.S. Mint
Philadelphia, Penna.

Please forward by express today Duress set of Gold and silver proof coins.

R. E. Preston
Director of Mint

Library Treasury Department.

Telegram.

E. B. Braden
Assayer in Charge, U.S. Assay Office
Helena, Montana.

Can you furnish me with the name of a suitable person to collect the statistics of New Mexico: Compensation ten dollars.

R. E. Preston
Director of Mint

Telegr. Treasury Department

December 23, 1896.

Messrs. William Weiss & Co.
#1600 Hamilton Street Station
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sirs:-

I have this day requested the Quartermaster of the U.S. Army in your city, to receive from you for account Riddle for the Mint at San Francisco for shipment. When you have delivered the same you will please forward your account, with the Bureau receipted in duplicate, accompanied by the Quartermaster's receipt.

Respectfully
R. E.

December 23, 1896.

Robert M. Thompson, Esq.
President Oxford Copper Co.
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

Repeating to your letter of the 21st instant I would say that we have already struck the specimen pieces required by the Resolution of the House passed at the last session of Congress, but if you will forward a sample of your mixes, I will have it tested as far as the rolling is concerned, and if from this it is believed that the metal is not too hard for coining purposes, I will endeavor to have some specimen pieces struck from the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of Mint.

December 23, 1896.

Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith please find Check for fifty four dollars and thirty seven cents ($54.37) in payment of medals and set of proof coins forwarded by you at my request.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of Mint.

December 23, 1896.

Superintendent U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

Repeating to the correspondence in regard to the cost of coinage per piece, I enclose herewith the statement of the Philadelphia Mint of the cost of coining, per piece, at that institution, from which you will observe that there is a slight difference in the coinage of gold, while in the coinage of silver, there is a wide difference per piece.

I will thank you to revise your figures and ascertain wherein the difference in the cost lies. Your attention is particularly called to the difference in the cost of coining quarter dollars and dimes.

Respectfully yours,
R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 23, 1896.

To the Quartermaster, U.S. Army,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sir:

I will thank you to receive from Messrs. William Sellers & Co. a coin riddle for shipment to the Mint of the U.S. at San Francisco, which will be delivered, properly boxed.

Respectfully yours,
R.E. Preston.
Director

December 23. 1896.

Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith duplicate of amendment of regulations to govern examinations for entrance into and promotions in the Mints and Assay Offices of the United States, properly approved, and call your attention to the fact that I have added for a statistical clerk. This position exists only at the San Francisco Mint.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston
Director.

December 23. 1896.

W. D. Thompson Esq.
Nathalie Avenue.
Tuxedo Bridge N. Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 16th instant, received and in reply you are respectfully informed that there is no fund from which you could be paid for any formula you might be able to furnish, for making an alloy of aluminum sufficiently hard to use for coinage purposes.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director

December 23, 1896.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Repeating to you letter of the 22nd instant, in relation to the supply of ice for your Mint during the current fiscal year, I would say that inasmuch as broken the bids were opened in July last, being all of one rate, and no award having been made, the party furnishing under the contract for the former fiscal year, was permitted to continue to supply the ice requires.

I cannot now see any reason why you cannot purchase ice from January 1st, 1897, for the balance of the fiscal year from the Consumers Ice Co., as suggested in your letter.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 23, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of twenty-two thousand nine Hundred and seventy-six $\frac{86}{100}$ Dollars ($22,976$\frac{86}{100}$) in Gold Coin, and one Hundred and forty-two $\frac{46}{100}$ Dollars (142\frac{46}{100}$) in Silver Coin, making a total of twenty-three thousand One Hundred and Nineteen $\frac{32}{100}$ Dollars ($23,119$\frac{32}{100}$) being the net value of Bullion heretofore pur-

warded by the Assayer in Charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 22 dated Dec. 18, 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to same address

1 x Assay Office at Boise x x x Thirty-four Thousand, Two Hundred and Eight 44/100 Dollars ($34,208 44/100) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred & Fifteen 89/100 Dollars ($115. 89/100) in Silver Coin, making a total of Thirty-four Thousand Three Hundred & Twenty-four 33/100 Dollars ($34,324 33/100) + + Assay Office at Boise + + No. 24 x x Dec. 17, 1896 x + x + + x

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December 23, 1896.

W. H. Oursler, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir.

Deposit Memorandum No. 24, dated Dec. 17, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia Shipment No. 24, dated Dec. 12, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $34,409 14/100; Charges $84 81/100 and net value $34,324 33/100. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion Fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 23. 1896.

Herman Kelly, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December 1896. and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for Special Assay. have been received, viz:

2 U.S. Dollars	Del.	282	$ 2.00
2 Half "	"	283	1.00
	Total.		$ 3.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 23. 1896.

E. B. Braden
Assayer in Charge U. S. Assay Office.
Helena Mont.

Sir.

Deposit Memorandum No 22. dated Dec. 18. 1896 Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia. Shipment No 22. dated Dec. 12. 1896. has been received and examined at this Bureau, & the gross value found to be $23,178 46/100. Charges $59 16/100. and net value $23,119 32/100. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion Fund of the Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 24, 1896.

Claude M. Johnson Esq.
Director of the Bureau of Eng. & Printing.

Sir.-

In the box of medals sent you to-day, you will find complimentary medals for the following persons.-

Claude M. Johnson.
Thomas J. Sullivan.
Herman Kretz.
Chas. E. Barber.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 24, 1896.

Superintendent U. S. Mint.
San Francisco, California.

Sir.

I enclose herewith the account of the Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co. receipted in duplicate for twenty thousand pounds of ingot copper delivered to the Quartermaster of the U. S. Army at Baltimore for shipment to your Mint.

Upon receipt of the copper you will please forward the Company a draft on New York for the amount, two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars ($2,250.) To enable you to make payment in this manner, I have requested that an advance of $2,250. be made from the appropriation for "Coinage of silver dollars" and placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer at New York.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 24. 1896

Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen.

You account for twenty thousand pounds of crude copper delivered to the Quartermaster for shipment to the U.S. Mint at San Francisco has been received and I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of that Institution with instructions to remit you a draft on New York for the amount, namely $2,250.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 24, 1896.

Herman Kretz Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia Pa.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2	U.S. Dollars	Del. 284	$2.00
2	Dimes	" 285	.20
		Total	$2.20

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:
Overton Cade Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La

xx 2 U.S. Dollars Del. 104 $2.00
Total $2.00

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

2 Eagles	Del 112.	$ 20.00
2 Lady eagles	" 122	1.00
	Total	$ 21.00

December 24, 1896

Remitted in Applicat Book

Overton Cade, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans. La.

Sir:

The designation of Wm. Leonard Magruder, Asst. Melter & Refiner of your Mint, to act as Chief Clerk during the temporary absence of that Officer is hereby approved.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston,
Director.

December 26, 1896.

Wolf M. Chase, Esq.
Room 5, No. 14 E. Eagle St.
Buffalo. New York.

Sir:

Your letter of the 21st instant received, and the gold referred to was delivered by the express company on the 24th instant. I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia who will credit you the proceeds.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 26. 1896.

Herman Kelly, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

The following coins received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896. and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	Del. 287	$	1.00
	Total	$	1.00

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:
Overton Cade, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

X X			
2 U.S. Dollars	Del. 105	$	2.00
	Total	$	2.00

December 26. 1896.

C. L. Bunce Esq.
Assayer U.S. Assay Office
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of fifty thousand Dollars $50,000.- and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully Yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 26. 1896

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I am respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise be increased in the sum of fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the Credit of the Assayer-in-Charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U.S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 28. 1896.

Overton Wade, Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Mint.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The samples enclosed in your letter of the 22nd instant are returned for amendment.

You are required to forward a requisition in the shape of a letter, stating full information regarding size, style of binding in case of books, and number of blanks or books wanted.

You are also required to follow in every respect Circular 151, a copy of which was sent you Nov. 10.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 28. 1896.

Robert A. Pumpelly Esq.
Oxford Knitting Co.
Box 1325. New York N.Y.

Sir.

Referring to your letter of the 24th instant I would be pleased to have you send the sheet of silked nickel which should be about the thickness of a five cent piece.

Respectfully yours.
W. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 28. 1896.

Hon. H. C. Lodge.
United States Senate.

Dear Sir.

Referring to your letter of the 21st instant enclosing a letter from Messrs. Young Brothers of Springfield, Massachusetts, calling attention to the stamp manufactured by them, which they claim to be the smallest stamp ever engraved, I would say that while the stamp is a piece of remarkably fine workmanship I cannot see where we could make use of it in the Mint.

I would, however, be glad if Messrs. Young Brothers would submit their scheme to prevent counterfeiting, in order that the Department may look into the matter.

Respectfully yours.
W. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 28, 1896.

H. P. Gorby Esq.
Scovill Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury, Conn.

Sir.

I will thank you to render me one bill covering all the medals for which the Department now owes you, in order that I may have the same reported for settlement.

Respectfully Yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint

December 28, 1896.

C. C. Goss, Esq.
Scovill Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury, Conn.

Sir.

Referring to the samples submitted by you for experimental five & one-cent pieces, I would thank you to give me your opinion as to whether they would retain their color, and which one of the three samples submitted, your think would retain its color the longest; in fact I would be glad if you will give me any information you can upon this subject in regard to other alloys.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 28, 1896.

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir.

I return herewith the Samples of Blank books and Blank forms forwarded with your requisition of the 16th inst. for amendment, to conform

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with Department Circular 151, dated Oct. 31. 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 28. 1896.

C.B. Braden Esq.
Assayer U.S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

I return herewith for amendment sample No. 1 forms enclosed in your requisition of the 21st inst.

The information required by Circular 151, dated Oct. 31. 1896, a copy of which was sent you Nov. 10. must be furnished before the bullion can be ordered from the Printer.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 28. 1896

John Daggett Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coin, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896. and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4. U.S. Dollars.

Dels 123 to 124 $4.00
Total $4.00

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 28, 1896.

Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of Nov & Dec., 1896, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram.

December 29, 1896.

Hon H. Kedzie,
Lordsburg, New Mexico.

Would you be willing to undertake collection of Statistics of production of gold and silver in New Mexico in 1896 at a compensation of two hundred dollars. Answer

R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

Treasury

December 29, 1896

B. P. Moss Esq.
Treasr Detroit Mfg. Co. Waterbury, Conn.

Sir:

You will please strike, in accordance with copies of letters enclosed herewith, six medals, & forward the same to this Bureau as early as practicable.

R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

December 29. 1896.

Hon. Charles S. Hamlin,
Asst. Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Sir.

Referring to the letter of Mr. Henry M. Beck of Boston, in reference to the amount of silver bullion held by Germany, the following is respectfully submitted in reply:-

The sale of the silver obtained by the melting of the old silver coins of Germany was suspended in 1879. In 1886, however, 100,000 German pounds or 50.000 kilograms, were sold to the Egyptian government. This sale embraced the remainder of the law of fine silver, amounting to 86,166.048 German pounds, or 43,083.024 kilograms, then held by the German Empire. The remaining 13,834 pounds or 6,917 kilograms having been obtained by melting down 1,248,900 marks in what is known in Germany as Vereinthalers or Union thalers, and 1,608 marks, which had been retired from circulation.

It would therefore appear that Germany no longer holds any silver derived from the melting of old silver coins. The authority for these figures is Ludwig Bamberger, leader of the gold party in Germany. According to a dispatch received from the German Government and published in the report of the Director of the Mint for 1894, page 258 the total amount of silver sold up to the end of March, 1893 was 7,205,151. 6/6 pounds and from the same dispatch it is evident that this amount resulted from the melting of old silver coins. Germany holds no silver bullion that she could put on the market.

Germany, however, has still in circulation

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Ad Stated pieces of the nominal value of $100.000.000. which are full legal tender, and it is probable that this is the silver that Hon. Andrew D White offered to. The radical gold monometallists of Germany insist that these coins shall be melted down and replaced by gold and that the Countrys monetary reform will not be complete until that is done.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 29, 1896

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:,

I enclose herewith a copy of letter addressed to the Collector of Customs by the Secretary of the Treasury on the 24th instant, instructing that you be furnished with samples of all base bullion ores and other importations containing gold and silver entered at the port of New York after January first, 1897. That an assay of the same may be made under your auspices for the purpose of determining the gold & silver contents.

You will confer with the Custom House officials and make such arrangements with them for the samples to be furnished you as may be necessary. It is very desirable that reports should be made by you at the close of each month of the value of gold & silver contained in importations of foreign bullion & ores.

In your report you will state the country from which the importations have been

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made and the gross weight of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 29, 1896.

To the Collector of Customs
Los Angeles, Cal.

Sir.

I enclose herewith copy of Circular letter issued by the Secretary of the Treasury to the various Collector of Customs in which they are instructed to furnish this Bureau monthly with statements showing the imports and exports of bullion and coin.

I would thank you to please render your statements from the first of July 1896. at your earliest convinence.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 29, 1896.

Herman Kirby, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S.S. Dollars. Del. 288 $ 2.00
Total $ 2.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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December 30, 1896.

Hon. L. W. Stone,
House of Representatives
Sir:

On June 9th. 1868. Senator Sherman made
port on International Monetary Standard, w
will be found on page 179 of "Speeches and
on Finance and Taxation" by Hon. Sherma

I am sure in 1875-6, a bill providin
an International coin, was introduced by
Sherman, but so far I have been unable
find the same.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Pre
Director of the

December 30,

Superintendent U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Sir:

Enclosed herewith find silver dollar,
New Orleans Mint of 1891. I will thank
have the same examined and return
Bureau, giving your opinion as to the ca
the light weight of this coin.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the M

December 30, 18

Herman Kelly, Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 29th instant
closing a copy of a letter received from Mes

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

Supplemental Logan. in reference to Mint bid for 164 barrels of Melter & Refiners Sweeps, you are hereby authorized to invite new proposals for these sweeps, and accept the highest bidder,

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 30. 1896.

Roman Kuhn, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia Pa.

Sir:

The following coins received at our Mint during the Month of December 1896. and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been assayed, viz:

2. S.S. Dollars	Del. 28	$2.00	
	Total	$2.00	

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:

Orton Cade, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans La.

2 Half Dollars.	Del 106	$	1.00
	Total.	$	1:00

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

2 S.S. Dollars	Del 125	$	2.00
	Total	$	2.00

December 30. 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Twenty-two Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty-five $\frac{23}{100}$ Dollars. ($22.355 $\frac{23}{100}$) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred & Sixteen $\frac{60}{100}$ Dollars ($116.$\frac{60}{100}$) in silver Coin, making a total of Twenty-two Thousand four Hundred and Seventy-one $\frac{83}{100}$ Dollars, (22,471.$\frac{83}{100}$), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 23 dated Dec. 26. 1896, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 30, 1896.

E. B. Braden Esq.
Assayer-in-charge U. S. Assay Office
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 23, dated Dec. 26. 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 23, dated Dec. 19. 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $22,528 $\frac{04}{100}$, Charges $56 $\frac{21}{100}$, & net value, $22,471 $\frac{83}{100}$. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.

Telegram:

December 31. 1896.

Superintendent Mint.
Philadelphia Pa.

The number of fine cent pieces coined does not agree with the value reported this month. Which is correct?

R. E. Preston.
Director.

Via Treas. Dept.

December 31. 1896.

Bruton Lade Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans La.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of December 28th enclosing corrected bill of Mrs. M. K. Ogden for the making of address plates. I have to say that the same has been referred to your credit in the account for Contingent expenses of your Mint for the month of November 1896. and the recommendation for disallowance of same has been withdrawn.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

December 31. 1896.

Bruton Lade, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins. received at Your Mint during the Month of December 1896. and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for Special Assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars Del 107 $ 1.00

Total $ 1.00

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint

Similar letter to:
Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa

2 S.S. Dollars Del 292 $ 2.00

Total $ 2.00.

December 31, 1895

W. J. Puckett, Esq:
Assayer in Charge, U.S. Mint.
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 28, dated December 26, 1896, of Gold Bullion forwarded to you in the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 28, dated Dec. 22, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $ 111.861 41/100, charges $ 250. 30/100, and net value $ 111.611 11/100. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:
W. J. Puckett Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge. Mint U.S.
Denver Colo.

x x x No. 27, dated Dec 26. 1896. x x x
Shipment No. 27, " Dec. 21, 1896, x x x

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gross value found to be $90,481 70/100, Charges $236 12/100.
& net value $90.245 58/100 x x x x x x x x x x x x

December 31, 1896.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of - eighty-nine Thousand five Hundred and fifty- four 75/100 Dollars, ($89,554.75/100) in Gold Coin, and Six Hundred & Ninety 83/100 Dollars ($690 83/100) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety Thousand two Hundred & forty- five 58/100 Dollars ($90,245 58/100), being the net value of Bullion Deposited by the Assayer in Charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 27, dated Dec. 26. 1896 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully Yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters:

x x x Mint at Denver x x One Hundred & Eleven Thousand five Hundred & Eighty- five 28/100 Dollars, ($111.585 28/100) x x in gold coin & Twenty- five 83/100 Dol. lars ($25 83/100) in Silver Coin x x of One Hundred & Eleven Thousand Six Hundred & Eleven. 11/100 Dol. lars ($111,611 11/100), being x x U.S. Mint at Denver, x x Memorandum No. 28, dated Dec. 26, 1896.

x x x x x x x x x x x x

January 2. 1897

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, California.

In addition to your gold coinage, you will execute in January such an amount of Standard Silver dollars as can be made with your present force.

Notwithstanding the rule providing for temporary appointments for ninety days, I do not think anyone can be employed in the Coinage Department, without his consent in writing.

M. E. Preston.
Director Mint.

Chief Treasury Dept:

January 2, 1897.

Robert M. Thompson, Esq.
President, Oxford Copper Co.
P. O. Box, 1325, New York.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 29th. ultimo, I have to request that you will forward the proved sheet of nickel to the Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, and I have written him to receive & hold the same until such a time as I can visit the Philadelphia Mint with the Chairman of the Coinage Committee of the House of Representatives, which trip will be in the course of a week or ten days.

Respectfully yours.
M. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 2. 1897.

Superintendent U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir.

The Arapahoe Copper Co., claim they are the largest producers of nickel in the United States, & have requested that they be allowed to submit a sheet of pure nickel, as prepared by them. The same to be rolled into proper thickness for the five-cent pieces.

I will thank you to receive and hold the same until further orders.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 2nd 1897.

Sir.

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your Institution during the Month of January 1897, has been approved for the sum of $2800.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries	1897	$1.000.
Wages of Workmen	1897	1.500.
Contingent. Expenses.	1897	300.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

W. J. Rockett, Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge
U.S. Mint, Denver, Colo.

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January 2, 1897.

Archer Leade, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir,

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896, forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	Del. 108	$	.50
2 Dimes	" 109	$	.20
	Total.	$	.70

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 2, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Assay Office,
New York.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 31st ultimo, Certificate of Deposit No. 1384, for $ 25,535.74 being on account of Parting and Refining Chgs. Dr. ending Dec. 31, 1896, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

Personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury to the credit of the appropriation for parting and refining bullion.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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Similar letters with following exceptions.

x x 31st ultimo x x Deposit No. 1383 for $471.30 on account of Alloy Charges. Dr. endg Dec 31st x x x x w/d the Treasury as a Miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x x 31st ult. x x Deposit No. 1382 for $ 2,334.07 on account of Sale of By-products x x x x No personal x x x x gross bullion x x x x as a Miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x 31st ult. x x Deposit No. 1381 for $140.00 x x on account of Special Assays Dec Dr. 1896 x x x x. No personal x x bullion x x x as a miscel. laneous receipt.

---

x x 31st ult. x x Deposit No. 1380 for $7.00 x x acct of Sales of Old Material. Dec. Dr. 1896 x x x. No personal x x x bullion x x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

x x 31st ult. x x Deposit No. 9246 for $ 13.25 x x acct of Sale of Old material Dec. Dr. 1896 x x No personal x x x bullion x x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x 31st ult. x x No. 9245 for $62.00 x x account of Special Assays Dec. Dr. 1896 x x x. No personal x x bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x 31st ult x x No. 9244 for $7,487.09 x x account of Casting and Refining Charges Dr. endg Dec. 1896 x x x bullion x x to the credit of the appropriation for casting & refining bullion-

x x x 31st ult x x No. 9243 for $258.40 being on account of Alloy Charges Dr. endd Dec. 31, 1896 x x x x personal x x bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x x x Deposit No. 9237 for $50,000.00 x x on account of Minor Coinage Profits x x x x x personal x x bullion x x x as profits on minor coinage.

January 4, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of the 2nd instant. you are authorized to purchase the following minor coinage metal alloy for the recoinage of minor coins from the Scovill Manufacturing Co.

New Zinc,	8,842	Avr. lbs	at $0.13	per lb. $1.15
" Zinc,	8,842	" "	.04	" " .35
Pure nickel,	481.867	" "	.40	" 192.75
		Total ----------		$194.25

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 4, 1897.

S. W. Dee, Esq.
Caldwell, Idaho.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 29th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that there were coined during the calendar year, 1894, 3,093,972 standard silver dollars, from bullion purchased under the act of July fourteenth 1890.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.

January 4. 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir.

I have this day requested that a transfer be made from the Building Fund of your Mint to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of twenty thousand dollars ($20.000.) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the act of July 14. 1890, received in exchange for standard silver dollars.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 4. 1897

Senor Don Joaquin Bernardo Calvo.
Ministro residente.
No. 1509 Twentieth St. City.

Dear Sir.

I regret that I did not see you when you called. I enclose herewith a copy of a letter from the Engraver of the Mint at Philadelphia, which will interest you as to the original dies and hubs for the coins which the Costa Rican Government propose to strike.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 4, 1897.

Herman Kretz Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir.

Please forward your statement of annual

assay coins received during the month of June, 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 4, 1897.

To the Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July 14, 1890, received in exchange for Standard silver dollars, during the month of December, 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 4, 1897.

John Daggett Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for Special Assay, have been received, viz:

4.	S. S. Dollars.	Dels 128 & 129	$ 4.00
		Total	$ 4.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 4. 1897

Wm Bryan Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge.
U.S. Assay Office.
St. Louis. Mo.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of January 1897, has been approved for the sum of $409.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the Current Fiscal year, viz:

Salaries	1897	$258.30
Wages of Workmen	1897	86.10
Contingent Expenses.	1897	64.60

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted.

Overton Lewis, Esq.
Supt. Mint. U.S.
New Orleans. La.

Sir:

× × × January 1897 ×× $12,200.00 ××× Mint ×××

Salaries	1897	$2700.
Wages of Workmen	1897	7000.
Contingent Expenses	1897	2500

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Assay Office.
New York City. N.Y.

× × ×× $13,200.00 ××× Office ×××

Salaries	1897	$3200.
Wages of Workmen	1897	2200.
Contingent expenses	1897	800.
Parting & Refining Bullion	1897	7000.

Herman Kretz.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

× × × $41,850.00 × × × Mint × × ×

Salaries	1897	$ 3,500.00
Wages of Workmen	1897	20,000.00
Contingent Expenses	1897	5,000.00
Parting & Refg Bullion	1897	3,000.00
Coinage of Silver Bullion. (act July 14, 1890)		10,000.00
Storage of Silver Bullion (act July 14, 1890)		350.00

January 5. 1897.

E. Braden Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge U.S. Assay Office.
Helena, Montana

Sir:

I herewith return duplicate certificate of deposit Nos 20 and 21, for the quarter ending December 31, 1896, which should be retained in your office.

In future, please enter the amounts of all certificates of deposits, issued quarterly on one letter "Form No. 550 A."

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 5. 1897.

To the
Assistant Treasurer U.S.
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I return herewith the silver dollar, received from you and would take pleasure

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same has been reduced in weight by acids.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

To the "El Paso Smelting Works"
El Paso, Texas.

January 5th 1897.

Gentlemen:

Referring to your communication of the 31st ultimo relative to the product of your Works for 1896. I request that you will be kind enough to forward the letter and blank form sent you from this Bureau, to the "Consolidated Kansas City Smelting & Refining Co", in order that they may furnish the desired information.

Very respectfully
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 5. 1897

Theodore W. Foucter, Esq.
No. 1257 Robey Street.
Chicago, Ills.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 28th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that the Mint pays for Gold at the rate of $20.67 per ounce fine, or $18.60 per standard ounce. That is gold nine-tenths fine.

Any deposit of less value than one hundred dollars can be legally refused by the Mint. In practice however, it is usual to receive all bullion except when too base for the operations of the Mint. The value of all gold deposited at the Mints is settled for after melting assay, which is within two days after the

date of the deposit. The mint charges depend entirely upon the amount of work to be done.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 5. 1897

Dr. D. K. Tuttle,
Care of U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find proof of the articles for the fiscal report for yourself, Messrs. Eckfeldt, Barbour and Morgan.

Please read yours, & have the others read theirs, making such corrections as may be found necessary.

I would like to have proof returned if possible, by tomorrow's mail, so as to reach me Thursday A.M.

With best wishes, I am.
Yours very truly.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 5th 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury, Connecticut

Sirs:

Your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing your account, amounting to four hundred and twenty-five dollars ($425.00) for medals which you have erected has been received, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston - Director

January 5, 1897.

Hon. Matt W. Ransom.
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary,
City of Mexico.

Dear Sir:

I take pleasure in forwarding you by to-days mail, a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of the Precious Metals for the calendar year, 1895.

In the course of a few days, the usual series of inquiries prepended annually by this Bureau, through the Department of State, asking for information covering the production, coinage and use in the Arts of gold and silver, etc., during the calendar year, 1896, will be sent to the Representatives of the United States, accredited to the several countries of the World.

I am very anxious to procure the Statistics of the production and coinage of gold and silver in Mexico for 1896, as early as practicable, and if you will kindly obtain and forward the same at an early date, I will be under many obligations.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:-

Hon. Macgrane Coxe.
Envoy Extraordinary & Minister Plenipotentiary.
Guatemala City, Guatemala.

x x x x x coinage of gold & silver in Honduras and Guatemala for 1896 x x x x x x

Hon. Allen Thomas.
x x x x
Caracas, Venezuela.

x x x coinage of gold & silver in Venezuela x x x

Hon James D. Tillman.

x x x x x x

Quito, Ecuador

Dear Sir:

x x x gold & silver in Ecuador for 1896 x x x

Hon. Thomas Moonlight.

x x x x x x

La Paz, Bolivia

x x x gold and silver in Bolivia for 1896 x x

Hon. Edward H. Strobel.

x x x

Santiago, Chile.

x x x gold & silver in Chile for 1896 x x x x

Hon. Lewis Baker

x x x

Managua, Nicaragua

x x x gold & silver in Costa Rica, Salvador and Nicaragua for 1896 x x x x x x x x

---

Hon. William D. Buchanan.

x x x x x

Buenos Ayres, Argentina.

x x x gold & silver in Argentina for 1896 x x x

Hon. Luther G. McKinney.

x x x x

Bogota, Colombia

x x gold & silver in Colombia for 1896 x x x

Hon. Granville Stuart.

x x x x

Montevideo, Uruguay.

x xx gold & silver in Paraguay & Uruguay x x x

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Hon. James A. McKenzie
x x x
Lima, Peru.
x x x gold & silver by Peru for 1896 x x x x

Hon. Barlett Tripp.
x x x x x
Vienna, Austria-Hungary.
x x gold & silver by the Austrian-Hungarian Empire for 1896 x x x x x x x x x x x

Hon. Clifton R. Breckenridge.
x x x x
St. Petersburg, Russia
x x gold & silver by Russia for 1896 x x x

Hon. Frederick C. Penfield.
Agent & Consul General,
Cairo, Egypt.

Dear Sir:-

x x x gold & silver in Egypt for 1896 x x

January 5, 1897.

A. Hanauer Esq.
Salt Lake City, Utah.-

Sir:

The following blank forms and record books for official use of your institution have been mailed you this day, viz:-
250 copies, Form No. 33774 Mining Statistics Interrogatories 1896:

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.-

January 5. 1897.

E. B. Braden. Esq.
Assayer. in. Charge. U. S. Assay Office.
Helena. Montana.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of January 1897, has been approved for the sum of $2,000.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your office during the current fiscal year. viz:.

Salaries	1897	$700.00
Wages of Workmen	1897	1100.00
Contingent Expenses	1897	200.00

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:

J. W. Adams. Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
Carson. Nev.

× × × $4.000 × × × × × × × × ×

Salaries	1897	$1500.00
Wages of Workmen	1897	$1500.00
Contingent Expenses	1897	$ 500.00
Parting & Refining bullion	——	$ 500.00

Your refinery expenses must be limited to the amount of charges collected.

Respectfully yours -
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

Hon. James A. McKenzie
x x x
Lima, Peru.
x x x gold & silver by Peru for 1896 x x x x

Hon. Charles Tripp.
x x x x x
Vienna, Austria-Hungary.
x x gold & silver by the Austrian-Hungarian Empire for 1896 x x x x x x x x x x x

Hon. Clifton R. Breckenridge.
x x x x
St. Petersburg, Russia
x x gold & silver by Russia for 1896 x x x

Hon. Frederick C. Penfield.
Agent & Consul General,
Cairo, Egypt.

Dear Sir:-

x x x gold & silver in Egypt for 1896 x x

January 5, 1897.

A. Heaman Esq.
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sir:

The following blank forms and record books for official use of your institution have been mailed you this day, viz:-

250 copies, Form No. 33774 Mining Statistics Interrogatories 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

January 5. 1897.

E. B. Braden. Esq.
Assayer. in. Charge. U. S. Assay Office.
Helena. Montana.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of January 1897, has been approved for the sum of $2,000.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your office during the current fiscal year. viz:-

Salaries	1897	$700.00
Wages of Workmen	1897	1100.00
Contingent Expenses	1897	200.00

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:

J. W. Adams. Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
Carson. Nev.

x x x $4.000 x x x x x x x x x x

Salaries	1897	$1500.00
Wages of Workmen	1897	$1500.00
Contingent Expenses	1897	$ 500.00
Parting & Refining bullion	———	$ 500.00

Your refinery expenses must be limited to the amount of charges collected.

Respectfully yours -
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

January 5th 1897

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 U.S. dollars. Del 1 $2.00
Total $2.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Assay. U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

× × × December 1896 × × × viz:
2 U.S. Dollars Del 130 $2.00
Total $2.00

Telegram

January 6. 1897

O. J. Reichhelm,
No. 80 Nassau St.
New York. N.Y.

Mr. Whitehead will be here all day tomorrow.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 6. 1897

Mr. Miriam Allen.
Room No. 507, Girard Building.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo.

you are respectfully informed that the adjusters in the Mint at Philadelphia are now included in the Classified Service, and it would be necessary for the lady to whom you refer to file her application, and when a vacancy occurs which it is necessary to fill, an examination will be held.

The rules for these examinations are now being formulated; as soon as they are completed they will be printed and copies can be had upon application to the Superintendent at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 6th 1897.

J. V. N. Dorr, Esq.
Deadwood, South Dakota.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that no action has been taken by the Department in reference to the establishment of an assay office at Deadwood. For the reason that the appropriation was too indefinite, inasmuch as it did not state whether the Secretary of the Treasury was to purchase, rent or erect a building. Aside from this fact no provision whatever was made for the salaries of the officers, clerks, wages of workmen or Contingent expenses.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint

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January 6, 1897.

Miss Lettie M. Jamison.
Fullerton, Cherokee Co.
Kansas.

Miss:

In reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made by this Bureau, but you can have an assay made at the U.S. Assay Office at Charlotte North Carolina at the rate of three dollars for each assay. It is more than probable, however, that if you were to forward a sample of the ore referred to to this Bureau it could readily be determined whether it would be advisable or not for you to go to the expense of having an assay made.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 6, 1897.

Herman Myer. Esq.
Carthage, Tennessee.

Sir:

Your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing thirty-five dollars ($35.) in National Bank Notes, has been received, and referred to the Treasurer of the United States to whom the same should have been addressed.

I would suggest, that hereafter, should you desire to forward any Notes for redemption, that you send the same per registered mail as a matter of safety.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 6. 1897.

Percy T. Preston, Esq.
Wallace. Washington Co. Virginia.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant. I would be pleased to help you in any manner I can to secure a position, but the Mints are all in the classified service and therefore appointments in the same are made under the Civil Service Rules.

It is necessary, therefore, before you could secure an appointment, to take and examination under the rules prescribed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 6, 1897.

Overton Wade, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
New Orleans.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the — certificate of Deposit No. 139 for $ 5[57] being on account of Alloy Charges, Dr. ended Dec. 31. 1896. has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

— personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Letter of notification (Form # 550 a) not rec'd.

Respectfully yours-
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, except as noted:

Oxnam Keade, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans

x x Deposit N° 140 for $313.32 being on account of parting & refining Chgs. Dec. Dr. 1896 x x xx Bullion x x x to the credit of the appropriation for parting & refining bullion.

January 6. 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2	Double Eagles	Del 114	$ 40.00
		Total	$ 40.00

Respectfully yours
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to
Herman Kuhn, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

2	D.D. Dollar	Del. 2	$ 2.00
		Total	$ 2.00

January 6. 1897.

C.A. Shurtz, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U.S. Assay Office
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum N° 25, dated

Dec. 31, 1896. Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia. Shipment No. 25, dated Dec. 31, 1896. ~~Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at~~ has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $32,006 31/100; Charges $91 32/100, and net value $31,914.99/100. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.

R. E. Preston.

Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, except as noted:

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.

Assayer-in-Charge U. S. Assay Office,

Charlotte, N. C.

× × Memorandum No. 12, dated January 2, 1897.

× × × Shipment No. 12, dated Dec. 30, 1896. × × ×

$19,624 16/100; Charges $45 25/100 & net value $19,578 91/100

× × × × × × × ×

January 6th 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.

Assayer-in-Charge.

U. S. Assay Office.

Div: Charlotte, N. C.

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the month of January, 1897, has been approved for the sum of $326.80, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your office during the current fiscal year, viz:

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Salaries	1897	$ 236.80
Wages of Workmen	1897	90.00
Contingent Expenses.		

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 6. 1897

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty-two $\frac{33}{100}$ Dollars ($19,532\frac{33}{100}$) in gold coin and Forty-six $\frac{58}{100}$ Dollars ($46\frac{58}{100}$) in silver coin, making a total of Nineteen Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy-eight $\frac{91}{100}$ Dollars ($19,578\frac{91}{100}$) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, as shown by Memorandum No. 12 dated January 2. 1897, of bars of Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted:

X X Assay Office at Boise X X Sum of Thirty-one Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty-One $\frac{05}{100}$ Dollars ($31,661\frac{05}{100}$) in gold coin, and Two Hundred & Fifty-three $\frac{94}{100}$ Dollars ($253\frac{94}{100}$) in silver coin, making a total of Thirty-one Thousand Nine Hundred and Fourteen $\frac{99}{100}$ Dollars ($31,914\frac{99}{100}$)

X X Assay Office Boise X X No. 25, dated Dec. 31, 1896 X X

January 6, 1897.

First Auditor.
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York City, N.Y. for the month ending December 31st, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

accounts sent Jany 5, 1897.
" recd " 6, 1897.

January 6th 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.
Supt. U. S. Assay Office.
New York City, N.Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, wages Contingent & Refinery accounts for the month ending December 31st 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint

January 7th 1896

To the
Chief Clerk
Govt Printing Office

Sir.-

Referring to Galley # 48 "U". of the report of the Director of the Mint for 1896. I will say that the tables should be printed as per the enclosed pages taken from the Report on the Production of Precious Metals for 1895.

I will think you to have the change made

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 7th 1897.

Overton Wade Esq.
Supt. U. S. Mint.
New Orleans La.

Sir.

You will please forward immediately your statement of coinage prepared on form number 246 for the month and year ended December 31, 1896.

The coinage should be reported by telegraph upon its completion, followed immediately by statements prepared on the form stated above.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 7th 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.
Assayer. in. Charge.
Denver.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 31st ult, Certificate of Deposit No. 4629 for $134.45 being on account of Value D.M. Room Sweepings Dec. Dr. 1896, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted:

W. J. Puckett Esq.
Assayer in Charge.
Denver.

x x 31st ultimo x x No. 4630 for $1088.26 x x Melting Assaying & Stamping Clips Dec. Dr. 1896 x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x 31st Ultimo x 4631 x x $16.00 x x Special Bullion Assays. Del. Dr. 1896 x x No personal x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

x x 31st ult x x No. 254 for $523.16 x x Sale of By. Products Dr. ending Dec. 31. 96 x x x No personal x x Bullion x xx as a miscellaneous receipt.

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John Daggett Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco Cal.

x x x 31st ult. x x No. 253 for $2.00 x x Sale of Old Material Dec 2r. 1896. x x x x x No Personal x x Bullion x x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

Leo Bruguiere
Assayer in Charge
Dr. Denver

xx x No. 1775 for $4.00 x x Special Assays Dec. 2r. 1896 x x x. No Personal x x Bullion x x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x xx 4th instant x x No. 1773 for $40.09 x x Melting Assaying and Stamping Chgs. Dec. 2r. 1896. x xx Bullion x x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x x x x x x x x x x x for $20.09 x Value U.M. Broom grains Dec. 2r. 1896 x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

E. B. Braden Esq.
Assayer in Charge
Helena

x x 31st ult. x x No. 20 for $86.00 x x Special Bullion Assays 2r. ending Dec. 1896 x x No Personal x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt

---

x x 31st ultimo x x No. 21 for $723.23 x x x Melting Assaying and Stamping Chgs. Dec. 2r. 1896 x x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

January 7. 1897.

Herman Kretz Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia Pa

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for Special assay, have been received, viz:

2	U.S. Dollars	Del 3	$ 2.00
2	Dimes	" 4	.20
		Total	$ 2.20

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint

Similar letter to:

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of December, 1896, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for Special assay + + +

2	Double Eagles	Del. 115	$ 40.00
2	Half Dollars	" 131	1.00
		Total	$41.00

January 7th 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury

Sir.

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the

sum of Seventy-three Thousand Nine Hundred & Seventy-four $\frac{28}{100}$ Dollars ($73,974.\frac{28}{100}$) in Gold Coin, & One Hundred and Sixty-three $\frac{81}{100}$ Dollars ($163\frac{81}{100}$) in Silver coin, making a total of Seventy-four Thousand One Hundred and Sixty-eight $\frac{09}{100}$ Dollars ($74,538\frac{09}{100}$) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in Charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 29. dated January 4, 1897. of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted:

x x x U.S. Assay Office at St. Louis x x x Eight Thousand One Hundred and Twenty $\frac{13}{100}$ Dollars ($8,120\frac{13}{100}$) in Gold Coin Forty-nine $\frac{42}{100}$ Dollars ($49\frac{42}{100}$) x x total of Eight Thousand One Hundred & Sixty-nine $\frac{55}{100}$ Dollars ($8,169\frac{55}{100}$) being the net value x x x Assay Office at St. Louis x x No. 253 dated January 4. 1897 x x x

---

x x x Mint at Denver x x Two Thousand One Hundred & Thirty-two $\frac{26}{100}$ Dollars ($2,132\frac{26}{100}$) in gold coin & $18\frac{57}{100}$ in silver coin making a total of Two Thousand One Hundred & fifty $\frac{83}{100}$ Dollars ($2,150\frac{83}{100}$) x x U.S. Mint at Denver x x No. 29½ dated January 4. 1897 x x x

---

January 7. 1897

W. J. Puckett Esq
Assayer-in-Charge U.S. Mint,
Denver.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 29½. dated January 4. 1897. of Gold Bullion forwarded

Ivy your to the United States Mint at Philadelphia Shipment No. 29½, dated Dec. 31, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $2,950 83/100, Charges — & net value $2,950 83/100. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:
Guy Bryan Esq.
Assayer in Charge
U. S. Assay Office
St. Louis Mo.

× × No. 253, dated January 4, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 253 dated Dec. 31, 1896 × × $8,599 34/100; Charges $29 79/100, + net value $8,569 55/100 × × × × × × × ×

W. J. Puckett, Esq.
Assayer U. S. Mint.
Denver, Colo.

× × No. 29 × × Jany 4, 1897. × × No. 29. Dated Dec 31, 1896. × × for $74.754 11/100, charges $216 02/100, & net value $74,538 09/100 × × × × ×

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January 8, 1897

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Please forward to the United States Mint at New Orleans, Ten pairs Standard silver dollar dies; Ten pairs half-dollar dies; Ten pairs quarter-dollar dies, current calendar year.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 8, 1897

Overton Wade, Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith Record of Coins Reserved for Annual Assay during October, November and December and also for the calendar year 1896. For your signature.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 8, 1897

John Daggett Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the month of January, 1897, has been approved for the sum of $29,800.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries	1897	$ 3300~
Wages of Workmen	1897	14.000~
Contingent Expenses	1897	3.000~
Parting & Refining Bullion		1.500~
Coinage of Silver Bullion		
(act July 14, 1890)		8.000~

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director Mint.

January 8, 1897

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination & settlement the Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer-in-Charge of the U.S. Assay Office at St. Louis for the month ending December 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustments as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Accts sent-Jany 5. 1897
" recd " 8. 1897

January 8, 1897

Wm Bryan, Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge
U.S. Assay Office, St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement your Salary Wages & Contingent accounts for the month

ending December 31st 1896. with my approval.
Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 8. 1897

Orville Bader. Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans. La.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary Wages Contingent & Expense & Coinage & Silver Bullion Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Month ending December 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter:
W. J. Buckett Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge
U.S. Mint, Denver, Colo.

x x. Salary Wages & Contingent Expense Accounts x x x December 31, 1896

January 9th 1897.

C. P. Goss, Esq.
Scovill Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury, Conn.

Sir:.

I return upon by todays mail complimentary medals struck for Mr. Hamlin, Assistant Secretary for correction of the name.

It should be Charles S. and not Charles H. Hamlin.

Will you kindly have the correction made and return the medals to me.

Yours very truly.
R. E. Preston -
Director of the Mint.

January 9. 1897.

J. C. Leib, Esq.
No. 681 Hirsch St.
Chicago, Ills.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant you are respectfully informed that no gold pieces of the denomination of less than one dollar were ever coined or authorized to be coined at the Mints of the United States. Some pieces were manufactured by jewelers in San Francisco some years ago which were called gold halves and quarters: the half-dollar piece containing from nine to twelve cents worth of gold and the quarter dollar from six to eight cents worth.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 9. 1897

B. C. Keeler, Esq.
No. 3126 Morgan Street
St. Louis Mo.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Report of the Hon. H. R. Linderman, on the examination of the Mints on the Pacific Coast, in which he suggested the propriety of coining a silver dollar for the Oriental trade which suggestion was adopted by Congress, in the authorization of the said Dollar, is exhausted, and the Department has no copies for distribution.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9th 1897

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
New Orleans La.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that I have directed the Superintendent the Mint at Philadelphia to cause to be forwarded to you immediately, 10 pairs standard silver dollar dies, 10 pair half-dollar dies; and 10 pair quarter-dollar dies, for the current calendar year.

It is very desirable that you should coin up the balance of the uncurrent silver in your hands at an early date, and also to coin as many silver dollars this month as practicable.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.

January 9th 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have this day requested that there be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name, the sum of $83,967.68 on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion, purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9, 1897.

C. P. Goss, Esq.
Cowell Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury, Conn.

Dear Mr. Goss:

Referring to your letter of the 6th instant, I enclose herewith a sample alloy which contains 40 percent of silver, 15 percent of nickel and 45 percent. of copper. The Assayer of the Bureau had no pure nickel with which to make the experiment but used a five-cent nickel piece. He is of the opinion that an alloy, 35 percent. silver, 20 nickel and 45 copper would produce about the result you desire. To reduce the proportion of silver to 35 percent. and increase the nickel to 20 percent. would make a metal whiter than the sample enclosed.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.

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January 9. 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of Preston Beck. Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, the sum of eighty-three thousand nine hundred sixty-seven dollars and sixty-eight cents ($83.967.68) on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the act of July 14th 1890. and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9. 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of Herman Kiefer Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of three hundred thousand, seventeen dollars and fifty-four cents ($300.017.54) on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the act of July 14th 1890. and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9. 1897.

W. S. Goldman, Esq.
P.O. Box 485. Johannesburg.
South African Republic.

Sir:

I take great pleasure in forwarding you by todays mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of the Precious Metals for the calendar year, 1895.

The Fiscal Report is now being printed and as soon as received a copy will be mailed you.

I would be very much pleased if you could send me the production of the different Districts of the South African Republic.

Thanking you for your kind offer to furnish me at any time with information, I am,

Yours very truly,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9. 1897.

Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be deposited in the Treasury in your name the sum of $300.017.54. on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th. 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of that amount.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 9. 1897.

Calvin R. Brayton Esq.
Cashier, Hartwood National Bank.
Hanover, New Hampshire.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 5th inst. you are respectfully informed that I have sent you by Adams Express, a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would refer you to page 47 for the coinage of silver dollars for the Trade Dollar Act.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9. 1897.

D.W. McCallie Esq.
State Geological Survey.
Atlanta, Georgia.

Sir.

The report on the Production of the Precious Metals for 1895, has just been received from the Printer, and I take pleasure in forwarding you by Adams mail a copy of the same. As soon as the report for 1896 is received from the Printer, a copy will be mailed to you.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9. 1897.

The Montana Ore Purchasing Co.
115 Broadway.
New York N.Y.

Gentlemen.

Referring to your communication of the 8th inst. relative to your proposed

Bullion and Silver for 1896. I have to ask that I will be favored to receive your actual figures, at your earliest convenience, and also to state that it will be several months before the final figures, showing the product for 1896. will be completed.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9th 1897.

Herman Kuhn, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars.	Del. 6.	$	.50
2 Dimes	" 8	$	.20
		Total $	.70

Respectfully Yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9th, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the Sum of Twelve Thousand One Hun.

dred and Eighty-three $\frac{53}{100}$ Dollars ($12.183 $\frac{53}{100}$) in gold coin, and One Hundred and Ninety-four $\frac{02}{100}$ Dollars ($134 $\frac{02}{100}$) in Silver coin, making a total of Twelve Thousand Three Hundred and Seventeen $\frac{55}{100}$ Dollars ($12,317 $\frac{55}{100}$), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 26 dated January 6, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter:

x x Assay Office at Helena x x x

Thirty-six Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-one $\frac{35}{100}$ Dollars ($36,791 $\frac{35}{100}$) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and $\frac{32}{100}$ Dollars ($200 $\frac{32}{100}$) in Silver coin, making a total of Thirty-six Thousand Nine Hundred & Ninety-one $\frac{67}{100}$ Dollars ($36,991 $\frac{67}{100}$), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 24, dated January 6, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully Yours x xx

January 9, 1897

Supt. Assay Office,
Assay. in Charge
U. S. Assay Office
Boise City Idaho.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of January 1897, has been approved for the sum of $965.50, payable upon the depositing

Appropriations made for the support of your office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries	1897	$275.50
Wages of Workmen	1897	590.00
Contingent Expenses	1897	100.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9th 1897

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U.S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir.

I have approved and signed the proper accounting papers of the Department for examination and settlement a bill of the Stationery division Treasury Department for Stationery shipped you in the month of January 1897, amounting to $194.52 payable from the Appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint 1897.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9th 1897

First Auditor.
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the salary, wages, contingent, Refinery and Coinage of Silver Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at New Orleans for the month ending December 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of

adjustments as required by law.

Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Cable sent. Jany 6th 1897.
" recd " 8th 1897.

January 9th 1897

Chester Lade. Esq.
Supt Mint U.S.
New Orleans La.

Sir.

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your salary, wages, Refinery, Contingent and Coinage & Silver Bullion accounts for the month ending December 31st 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9. 1897.

Herman Kuhn. Esq
Supt. Mint. U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery, and Coinage & Bullion Accounts, with Vouchers and Schedules for the Month ending December 31. 1896.

Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:

W. C. Audrey,
Assayer in Charge,
U.S. Assay Office
Charlotte, N.C.

× × Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense × × ×

C. B. Braden,
Assayer in Charge
U.S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

× × Salary, wages & Contingent Expense × × ×

× × Bullion accounts with Depositors & Vouchers for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896.

January 9th 1897.

C. B. Braden Esq.
Assayer in Charge U.S. Assay Office.
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 24, dated Jany 6, 1897 of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 24, dated Dec. 31, 1896, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $37,082 94/100. Charges $91 27/100, and net value $36,991 67/100. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion Fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint, at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint

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Similar letter to:
J. A. Edwards Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge U. S. Assay Office
Boise Idaho

X X No. 26. dated Jany 6. 1897 X X Shipment No. 26. dated Dec. 31. 1896 X X $12.34693/100. charges $29.38/100. and net value $12,317.55/100 X X X X X X

January 11. 1897

Isaiah Bain, Esq.
Albert Street, Belize, British Honduras.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made in the Laboratory of this Bureau but at the Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina at a charge of three dollars for each assay.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 9th 1897

Frank Moore Colby, Esq.
Care of Dodd Mead & Co.
#149 Fifth Avenue N. Y.

Sir:

As soon as the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1896, is received from the printer, a copy of the same will be forwarded you, which will probably be within the next ten days.

You will find in this Report the latest estimate of the gold & silver coins in circulation in the principal countries of the World.

Respectfully Yours:
R. E. Preston

January 11, 1897.

Hon. James. M. Beck.
United States Attorney.
Philadelphia. Pennsylvania.

My Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure of receiving from you some days since a copy of your brief and the decision of the court in the case of the United States vs. Borbyshell, for which I render you my sincere thanks.

Yours very truly.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 11. 1897.

Herman Meyer Esq.
Cashier, Bank of Carthage.
Carthage, Tennessee.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 7th instant, enclosing fifty-six dollars ($56.00) in mutilated legal tender notes, silver certificates, and bank notes has been received, and the same referred to the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 11th. 1897.

Messrs. William Sellers & Co.
#1600 Hamilton St.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen:

If you will kindly receipt the enclosed bill and return the same to this

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Bureau, it will facilitate payment by the Superintendent of the Mint, at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours.

R. E. Preston.

Director of the Mint.

January 11, 1897

Messrs. Young Bros.,

Springfield, Massachusetts.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of the 8th. instant, giving information as to a scheme proposed by you to prevent the counterfeiting of the United States coins, has been received, and will be duly considered.

Respectfully yours.

R. E. Preston.

Director of the Mint.

January 11. 1897.

W. P. Harrison, Esq.

P. O. Box 348.

Deadwood, So. Dak.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, you are respectfully informed that the preliminary estimate of the production of gold in South Dakota for 1895, as given by one from the best information I could obtain was $4,650,000 and not $1,650,000, as published in the Chicago Inter Ocean of the 3rd instant.

Respectfully yours.

R. E. Preston.

Director of the Mint.

January 11, 1896

Wm Dickerson Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco Cal.

Sir:-

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Double Eagles Del. 1 $40.00-
Total $40.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director Mint.

January 11, 1897.

W. J. Puckett Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge.
Denver Colo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31. 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director.

Similar letter to:
W. C. Audrey Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge
Charlotte, N.C.

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January 12, 1897

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find mutilated, fractional coins, for which I will thank you to return the value, deducting return registration charges.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 12. 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 11th instant, authority to purchase one Stab. Howe Desk for annual Contingent Department, the same is hereby granted, at a cost not to exceed $29.50.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 12th 1897.

First Auditor.
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the salary, wages, contingent, refinery, coinage and assay of silver Bullion Accounts of the Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa. for the month ending December 31st 1896, rendered me for the purpose of adjustment

as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director.

Accounts sent Jany 8. 1897.
" rec'd " 9. 1897.

January 12th 1897.

Herman Kuhn, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your salary, wages, contingent Refinery, Coinage & Storage of Silver Bullion accounts for the month ending December 31st 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 12th 1897

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint. U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Co. for the transportation in the Month of May, 1896, from Chicago, Ills. to Council Bluffs Iowa copper, amounting to 16 13/100 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for contingent expenses of your

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

Mint.-Fiscal year 1896. Duplicate B/L. herewith.
Very respectfully.
R. E. Preston
Director

January 12. 1897.

Hon. H. Hedrick Esq.
Lordsburg, N.M.

Sir:

The following blank forms and record books for official use of your institution have been mailed you this day, viz:-

500 Copies Form No. 337 Interrogatories 1896
500 envelopes # 9½ (plain)
500 " " 9 (addressed)

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint

January 13. 1897.

Telegram: Hon. A. B. Nettleton
Room 1301, No. 27 Williams St.
New York.

Your authority Superintendent to grant Messrs. Sulphen and Logan until thirty-first of January to remit for and remove Ingots from the Philadelphia Mint.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint

Assay Department.

January 13th 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find voucher for fuel, gas, pertaining to your account for contingent expenses during the month of December, you will observe that it does not give the quantity of gas consumed, nor any data from which it can be ascertained; I have recommended the temporary suspension of this voucher and shall ask its disallowance if not promptly corrected and returned.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director.

January 13. 1897.

To the
American Express Co.
Foreign Department.
Boston, Massachusetts.

Gentlemen:

I have received your postal stating that a package of books addressed to one in your care, is held at the Boston Custom House and request that I forward upon the invoice that the duty on the same be paid.

In reply I would say that the Secretary of the Treasury has this day directed the Collector of Customs to admit this package free, as the books are intended for the official use of this Bureau, and are sent as exchanges for the reports on the

RG104 E-235 Vol 81-

production of the Precious Metals.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 13. 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Carson, Nevada.

Sir.

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery expense accounts for the month ending December 31. 1896. with my approval except voucher No 66. which is returned in separate letter.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 13. 1897.

First Auditor.
Treasury Department.

Sir.

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the salary, wages, contingent and Refining expense accounts of the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson, Nevada, for the Month ending December 31. 1896. rendered this day for the purpose of adjustment as required by law. See certificate on abstract of disbursements.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Accounts sent January 6. 1897.
" rec'd " 9. 1897.

January 13. 1897.

Hermann Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia Pa.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January. 1897. and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4 S.S. Dollars Dels. 10 @ 11 $ 4.00
Total $ 4.00

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:
John Daggett. Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir.

× × × January 1897 × × × × × × × ×
2 Double Eagles. Del 2 $ 40.00
2 S.S. Dollars " 1 $ 2.00
Total $ 42.00

January 13. 1897.

Superintendent Mint U.S.
New Orleans. La.

Sir.

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of December. 1896. and

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forwarded for test as prescribed by the regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of variance

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

Oretus Bade. Esq
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans. La.

Sir.

I have been advised of the approval of the official bond of C. J. Blaussen, as assayer of your Mint, by the acting Secretary of the Treasury, under date of the 11th instant.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director.

Telegram: Assayer U. S. Assay Office.
Boise, Idaho.

Extension of leave of absence for ten days approved.

R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Exchange Treasury Department.

January 14, 1896.

Frederick D. Waite, Esq.
Madison, Wis.

Sir.

In answer to your letter relative to the stock of gold and silver in foreign countries in 1873, I will say that the "Report of the Director of the Mint, for 1896" (now in print,) contains

an estimate of the stock at that date, and also for January 1. 1896.

A copy of the Report will be sent you when published.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14. 1897.

Edward Brush, Esq.
Assistant Secy. Kansas City S. & R. Co.
P. O. Box 2043 New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I forward you by Todays mail a copy of the report on the production of the precious metals for the calendar year, 1895. in which you will find a table giving the imports and exports of silver in coin and bullion and ore by Customs Districts for the calendar year, 1895.

The fiscal report of this Bureau is now in the hands of the Printer, and as soon as printed a copy will be mailed to you, in which you will find the information brought down to the thirtieth of June last. This information will hereafter be compiled regularly by the Bureau and published in both the production and fiscal reports.

As soon as the returns are all in for the Customs Districts for the month of December, a statement will be compiled, containing this information for the six months ending December 31, and mailed to you.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 14, 1897.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.
Engraver, U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of the letter received from Hon. G. B. Calvo, Minister, accredited to this Government by the Government of Costa Rica, from which it will appear that he accepts your proposal to engrave, in your private capacity, the dies for the gold coinage, which is contemplated by the Government of Costa Rica to make.

At the close of Mr. Calvo's letter, you will observe that they expect you to complete these dies within two months. Of course this is a matter entirely between yourself and the Costa Rica Government.

I have notified Mr. Calvo that I have sent the designs of the coins to you.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

I am directed to notify you that the Costa Rican Government has arranged with Mr. Barber to engrave the dies for the new gold coins and that he will proceed, in his private capacity.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

Messrs. William Sellers & Co.
No. 1600 Hamilton St.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have forwarded your bill for $645. to the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, with instructions to remit you a draft on New York for the same.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

C. D. Goss, Esq.
Care of Seville Manufacturing Co.
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Sir:

I send you per registered mail to-day, a box containing a medal of the World's Columbian Exposition, with the name incorrectly placed upon the same.

Will you please strike a new medal with the name placed as per enclosed list, and forward to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

I will thank you to cause to be prepared and forwarded to the Mint of the United

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

Mints at New Orleans. Five (5) pair of dime dies.
for the current calendar year.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14. 1897.

Professor Samuel McBurne Lindsay.
University of Pennsylvania.
The College Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, you are respectfully informed that the edition of the report on the production of the precious metals for the calendar year 1894. is exhausted
I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report for 1895.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14. 1897

Charles B. Dana Esq.
No. 2931 Third St.
New York. N.Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant. I have to state that the cost of striking the coins from blanks already prepared as enumerated in your letter of the 9th instant. would be as follows:

300,000 Isaac Pieces at 25¢ per ##	$75.00
300.000 half-Isaac Pieces at 25¢ per ##	75.00
375.000 one-fifth Isaac Pieces at 25¢ per ##	93.75
750.000 one-tenth Isaac Pieces at 25¢ per ##	187.50
Total	$431.25

This estimate is based upon the understanding that the blanks furnished will be properly cleaned, and milled, and that the dies and collars will also be furnished.

It is assumed that the pieces above mentioned will correspond approximately in size with the silver dollar, half-dollar, quarter, twenty-cent pieces and dimes, and that deviate the necessity of making new feed rules and feed fingers for the press, otherwise the cost of these will have to be added.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14. 1897.

B. H. Keller, Esq.
2126 Morgan Street.
St. Louis, Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, I would state that the report of Dr. H. R. Linderman on the examination of the branch mints at San Francisco and Carson City, wherein he calls attention to the production of silver and the market value of the same and suggests the propriety of a trade dollar, was published by the Treasury Department, and ordered by the House of Representatives or the Senate. I have not a volume containing the same.

I enclose herewith a copy, which I will thank you, after perusal to return, as it is the only copy I have.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

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January 14, 1897.

William Woodward Esq.
No. 5616 Perria Street
Chicago. Illinois

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant. You are respectfully informed that engravers and die sinkers are employed at the Philadelphia Mint only. These positions are now under Civil Service and are only filled in case of a vacancy, and then by appointment of the parties passing the most satisfactory examination.

You should file your application with the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897

Frank P. Wilson, Esq.
Puyallup, Washington.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant. I forward you by today's mail a copy of the Report of the Director of the Mint on the production of the precious metals for the calendar year, 1896. and would respectfully refer you to pages 18 and 323.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14. 1897

C. H. Wells. Esq.
U. S. Mint. Denver.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made by this Bureau.

The samples forwarded by you are returned herewith. You can have these assays made in Denver.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

Horace Rowe Esq.
Bay City Michigan.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Mints have no half-eagles or five dollar pieces on hand of the coinage of 1847. The only way in which you could obtain a piece of this date would probably be from some coin-dealer.

As yet no half-eagles have been struck at the Mints this year, but it is probable that some of these pieces will be coined before the close of the year, when you can obtain one.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897

Walton Pulton, Esq.
No. 1710 North Eighth Street.
Station O. Philadelphia Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant I enclose herewith Circular showing the

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least current weight or which gold coin will be received by the Treasury.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897

Hon. R. G. Dettigrew.
United States Senate.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, you are respectfully informed that the estimate of the gold production of South Dakota which was on hand on January 1st 1896 was $4,650,000. Owing to the fact that delivery that the final figures will increase this sum by at least $250,000.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

To the Honorable.
Secretary of the Treasury

Sir.

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of the Director of the Mint at San Francisco, the sum of one hundred and sixty-eight thousand, three hundred and forty-seven dollars and fifty-eight cents ($168,347.58) on account of the bullion purchased on the certificates of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased

by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint.
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be deposited in the Treasury in your name the sum of $ 136,347.58. on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully Yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897

Hon. J. B. Dabney.
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.
No. 1509 Twentieth St.
Washington, D. C.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th instant, inclosing photographs of the designs for four gold coins of your government for which you wish the dies engraved by the Engraver of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, in his private capacity.

I have forwarded the photographs to

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Mr. Baker, and authorized him to proceed to engrave the dies immediately.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

I enclose herewith the bill of Messrs William Sellers & Co. for coin Riddle shipped to your mint through the Quartermaster's Department of the United States Army, amounting to $645.

Upon receipt of the riddle, you will please forward to Messrs. Sellers and Co. a draft for this amount upon the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York. To enable you to do this, I have requested that an advance of $645. be made from your appropriation for Contingent Expenses for the current fiscal year, and placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 14, 1897

Seaman Rutz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for

Special assays have been received, viz:

2. S.S. Dollars Deb. 12. $2.00

Total $2.00

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

× × January 7, 1897 × × ×

2 S.S. Dollars Del 2 $2.00

Total $2.00

January 14, 1897

J.W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 7th inst., Certificate of Deposit No. 273 for $12.00 being on account of Sale of Old Material Del. Dr. 1896, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

No journal credit to be given for the assay bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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Similar letters, except as noted to:

J. W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Carson, Nev.

x x 7% inst, xx No. 272 for $20.00 x x x on account of Special Assays Dec. Qr. 1896 x x x x x.
No personal x x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

W. C. Aubry, Esq.
Assayer in Charge.
Charlotte, N.C.

x x 11% inst. x x No. 964 for $ 33.00 x x x on account of Special Assays. Qr. ending 1896 x x x.
No personal x x Bullion accounts x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x 11% inst. x x No. 960 for $ 94.69 x x on account of Melting, Assaying & Stamping Chgs. Dec. Qr. 1896.
— personal x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

J. W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Carson, Nev.

x x 7% inst. x x No. 274 for $ 146.29 x x on account of Sale of By-Products Dec. Qr. 1896. x x x x.
No personal x x Bullion x x as a miscellaneous receipt.

---

x x 7% inst. x x No. 276 for $ 2,201.09 x x on account of Parting and refining Chgs. Dec. Qr. 1896
x x — personal x x Bullion x x to the credit of the appropriation for parting and refining bullion.

January 14, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Carson, Nev.

x x 7th inst x x Ofr. 275 for $ 43.94
being on account of Value. D. M. Roan grains
Dec. Dr. 1896 x x
— Personal x x Bullion x x as a mis-
cellaneous receipt.

January 14, 1897.

Asst Auditor.
Treasury Dept.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in Charge of the U.S. Mint at Denver Colo. for the month ending December 31st. 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

accts. sent Jany 5th 1897.
" rcd " 8th 1897.

January 14, 1897.

W. F. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer-in-Charge.
U.S. Mint, Denver, Colo.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and restlement your Salary.

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Wages and contingent expense accounts, for the Month ending December 31. 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15. 1897.

Hon. W. W. Bowers.
House of Representatives.

Sir.

Referring to your reference of the letter of Mr. J. Alexander, which is returned herewith, I have the honor to state, that the employees of the Mint at San Francisco are all included in the Classified Service.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15. 1897.

Norman Hall, Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

I will, in a few days, make up the list of the Annual Assay Commission.

If there is any one whom you would like designated, please furnish me with his name.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15th 1897.

Prof. E. M. Drowne,
President, Lehigh University,
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:

I will be obliged if you will kindly suggest the name of someone for designation as a member of the Annual Assay Commission.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15. 1897.

Walter D. Moore, Esq.
Bowling Green, Missouri.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 2nd instant, inquiring where there is a plant located for the smelting of aluminum from clay or of aluminum from direct electric process, I would respectfully inform you that the only plant known to is that of the Pittsburg Reduction Works, located at Niagara Falls.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15. 1897.

George B. Sayre, Esq.
Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf Ry. Co.
El Paso, Texas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, you are respectfully informed that the salaries of the Assayers at the Philadelphia and

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San Francisco Mint, and the Assay Office at New York, are three thousand dollars per annum.
At the Mint at New Orleans, Carson City, Nevada, and Denver, Colorado, twenty-five hundred dollars per annum. At the Assay Office at Helena, Boise City, Nevada-two hundred dollars, St. Louis, two thousand dollars: Charlotte, N.C., fifteen hundred dollars.

The salaries of the Assistants vary according to the character of the work they have to do. From three dollars and fifty cents to six dollars per day.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

I am unable to give you any information as to the prospects of the Government erecting Sample works at El Paso.

Charles J. Jenkinson Esq. January 15. 1897.
No. 121 Cedar Street
Reading, Pennsylvania.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, you are respectfully informed that the only positions in the Mint at Philadelphia that are not embraced in the Classified Service are those of laborers whose compensation varies from two dollars and fifty cents to two dollars and seventy-five cents per day.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 15. 1897.

William Macferran, Esq.
Asst. Cashier, Merchants Natl Bank,
Topeka, Kansas.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that there were coined during the calendar year, 1895, $62,880 Standard silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15. 1897.

M. Kapodistrias, Esq.
Care of J. Albright.
No. 204 Centre St. New York. N.Y.

Sir.

Your letter of the 14th instant received, but as the matter is one of which this Bureau has no knowledge whatever, I have forwarded the same to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15. 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January, 1897, and forwarded to this Bureau by the Mint for special assay have been received. viz:

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2 S.S Dollars Del 3 $2.00

Total $ 2.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director Mint.

January 15th. 1897.

Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit here with the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at this Mint during the Month of December 1896, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 15. 1897

Similar letter to:

Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

January 16. 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-seven Thousand four Hundred and Sixty-five $\frac{72}{100}$ Dollars ($97.465\frac{72}{100}$) in Gold Coin, and two Hundred and Forty-nine $\frac{34}{100}$ Dollars ($249.\frac{34}{100}$) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-seven Thousand Seven Hundred and fifteen $\frac{06}{100}$ Dollars ($97.715\frac{06}{100}$), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 30, dated Janry 11, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 16. 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars ($200,000.-), by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer-in-Charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 16. 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U.S. Mint.
Denver, Colo.

Sir.

Deposit Memorandum No. 30 dated Jany 11. 1897. of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 30. dated Jany 6, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $97.938 19/100; Charges $223 13/100 and net value $97.715 06/100 for the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion fund of your institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 16. 1897.

W. J. Puckett Esq.
Assayer U. S. Mint.
Denver, Colo.

Sir.

I have requested that the Bullion fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars ($200,000) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago by wire.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 16. 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 15th inst., you are authorized to purchase from the Revill Manufacturing Co. under contract now in force, twenty thousand (20,000) pounds of fine silver nickel blanks, at the rate of thirty-one and ninety-four hundredths cents ($0.31.94) per pound, avoirdupois.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 16, 1897.

Overton Leach, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your bullion Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896.

Respectfully Yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director.

January 16, 1897.

J. J. Church, Esq.
Assayer in Charge.
Boise.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 11th instant, Certificate of Deposit No. 496 for $ 454.67 being on

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account of Melting, Assaying & Stamping Ores. Dec. Qr. 1896. has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

— personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:

J. J. Church:
Assayer. in. Charge
Boise.

" " 11th inst " " No. 497. for $ 54.95 being on account of Value of D. M. Room sweeps Dec. Qr. 1896. " "

— personal " " bullion " " as a miscellaneous receipt.

" " 11th inst " " No. 498 for $ 319.20 being on account of Value of metal in D. M. Room ashes. Dec. Qr. 1896 " " "

— personal " " bullion " " as a miscellaneous receipt.

" " " No. 499 " for $ 345.00 being on account of Special assays Dec. Qr. 1896 " " " " "

No personal " " bullion " " as a miscellaneous receipt.

Please send itemized statement for this amount.

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January 16. 1897.

Wm. P. Bailey, Esq.
Treas. C. Horton & Son Co.
Windsor Locks, Connecticut.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that if you have received a medal or award of the World's Columbian Exposition, you can have electrotypes of the same made by anyone you choose, for advertising purposes.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 16. 1897.

Hon. Justin S. Morrill.
Chairman Committee on Finance.
United States Senate.

Sir:

I will be pleased to have you furnish me with the name of some member of your Committee that I could submit to the President for designation as a member of the Annual Assay Commission, to test the weight and fineness of the coins for the calendar year 1896.

The Commission will meet in Philadelphia on the tenth proximo.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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account of Melting, Assaying & Stamping Chgs. Dec. Dr. 1896. has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

— personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:
J. J. Bruch:
Assayer in Charge
Boise.

" " 11th instant " " No. 497. for $ 54.95 being on account of Value of D. M. Room sweeps Dec. Dr. 1896. " "

— personal " " bullion " " as a miscellaneous receipt.

" " " 11th inst " " No. 498 for $ 319.20 being on account of Value of metal in D. M. Room ashes. Dec. Dr. 1896 " " "

— personal " " bullion " " as a miscellaneous receipt.

" " " No. 499 " for $ 345.00 being on account of Special assays Dec. Dr. 1896 " " " " "

No personal " " bullion " " as a miscellaneous receipt.

Please send itemized statement for this amount.

January 16. 1897.

W. P. Bailey. Esq.
Treasr. C. Heaton & Son Co.
Windsor Locks. Connecticut.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that if you have received a medal award of the World's Columbian Exposition, you can have electrotypes of the same made by anyone you choose, for advertising purposes.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 16. 1897.

Hon. Justin S. Morrill.
Chairman. Committee on Finance.
United States Senate.

Sir:

I will be pleased to have you furnish me with the name of some member of your Committee that I could submit to the President for designation as a member of the Annual Assay Commission, to test the weight and fineness of the coins for the calendar year 1896.

The Commission will meet in Philadelphia on the Ninth proximo.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 16. 1897.

Hon. Charles A. Stone
Chairman, Committee on Coinage.
Weights and Measures.
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I will be pleased to have you furnish me with the name of some member of your Committee that I could submit to the President for designation as a member of the Annual Assay Commission, to test the weight and fineness of the coins for the Calendar year, 1896.

The Commission will meet in Philadelphia on the 10th proximo.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January. 16. 1897.

Messrs. Wm. B. Dana & Co.
Post Office Box 958.
New York. N.Y.

Sirs.

Enclosed herewith please find check on Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York for ten dollars ($10.) being issued in payment of one years subscription to this Bureau to the "Commercial and Financial Chronicle."

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

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January 16. 1867.

Lee & Lawyer, Esq
No. 731 13th Street.
New York. N.Y.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, you are respectfully informed that no gold pieces of the denomination of twenty-five or fifty cents were ever authorized by law or coined at the mints of the United States. Some years ago, some jewelers in San Francisco, manufactured what they called a gold quarter and half-dollar.

The quarter contained from six to eight cents worth of gold and the half, about twelve cents worth.

No gold coins of the denomination of fifty or eighty dollars were ever struck by the Mints, but prior to the establishment of the mint at San Francisco, dies were issued by private assayers of the value of fifty dollars, none of the denomination of eighty dollars being struck. These dises were both round and octagonal.

I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully call your attention to pages 39 and 42 inclusive, for the coins which have been authorized by Congress to be struck.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 18, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Twenty-eight Thousand and Fifty-nine $\frac{57}{100}$ Dollars ($28,059.57). in Gold Coin, and Ninety $\frac{12}{100}$ Dollars ($90.12) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty-eight Thousand One Hundred and Forty-nine $\frac{69}{100}$ Dollars ($28,149.69) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 27, dated Janry 14, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 18, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Janry 8, 1897.
" recd " 11, 1897.

January 18, 1897.

F. F. Chuzch, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 27, dated Jany 14, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 27, dated Jany 9, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $28,218.59; charges $68.90, and net value $28,149.69. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 18, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department, for examination and settlement your bullion accounts, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

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January 18, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 1	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

4 S. S. Dollars	Dels. 4 & 5	4.00
Total		$4.00

January 18, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery and Coinage of Silver Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending December 31, 1896.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

over

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + Salary, Wages
and Contingent expense + Months
+ December 31, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + Bullion
+ + Quarter + December 31, 1896.

January 18, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of an extract from the letter received from the Minister of Costa Rica.

I will thank you to furnish me with an estimate of the cost of preparing the blanks ready for striking.

I am under the impression that I forwarded a copy of the law authorizing this coinage to you or to the Engraver a few days since, which will give you the weight and fineness of the coins.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 18, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your Institution during the Month of January 1897, has been approved for the sum of $350.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Contingent Expenses, 1897, $350.

To be placed to your credit, with the Assistant Treasurer at New York, to pay for Assay balances.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

\+ + + January 1897
\+ + $600.00 + Office
\+ on account of Mining Statistics + +
\+ + + + +

Contingent Expenses, Office Director of the Mint $600.00

January 18, 1897.

C. J. Breves, Esq.,
No. 124 No. Maine Street,
Berlin, Ohio.

Sir:

I send you by today's mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1895, in which you will find

a summary of the Coinage Legislation of the United States from 1792 to the close of 1895. You will also find in the appendix, the Monetary Systems of the different countries of the World.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 18, 1897.

Hon. J. B. Calvo,
No. 1509 Twentieth Street,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Yours of current date received. I will endeavor to send you an estimate in a few days, of the cost of making the blanks for the 10-Colone pieces.

It would be necessary for your Government to supply the bullion. I am willing to assist you in any way that I can in this matter.

I will be glad if you will send me a copy of the law authorizing the coinage of these pieces, as the one forwarded in your letter of the tenth instant, I transmitted to the Mint at Philadelphia.

Yours very truly,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 18, 1897.

To the Librarian,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, I regret to have to inform you that the Department has no copies of the report on the International Monetary Conference for distribution, as the supply has long since been exhausted.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 18, 1897.

Miss Matilda Wilson,
Lake Cicott, Cass Co., Indiana.

Miss:

In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, you are respectfully informed that silver bars vary in weight from five to fifteen hundred ounces. The Mints of the United States are not permitted to issue fine bars of either gold or silver of less than five ounces.

The coining value, in standard silver dollars of a bar of pure silver weighing one hundred ounces, would be $129.29+. To this bar there would have to be added eleven ounces of copper in order to reduce it to standard metal, that is so that it would contain nine parts of pure silver and one of copper.

A bar of pure gold, weighing one hundred ounces, would coin $2,067. Eleven ounces

of copper would have to be added to this to reduce it to standard metal, as in the case of silver.

Gold reaches the Mints in various forms, sometimes in the form of nuggets or grains from placer mines; in the form of unparted bars, that is bars containing silver and other metals, and in the form of fine bars, the latter being manufactured by private refiners.

Respectfully yours,

R. E. Preston,

Director of the Mint.

Telegram

January 19, 1897.

Assayer.

United States Assay Office

Boise, Idaho.

Your requisition for funds for current month disapproved for the reason that your December accounts were not forwarded until after the expiration of ten days. Explain fully reason for delay.

R. E. Preston.

Director Mint.

Change Treasury.

Telegram

January 19, 1897.

Superintendent Mint.

San Francisco, Cal.

Forward yearly statement of annual assay coins received.

R. E. Preston

Director.

Collect Govt. rates.

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January 19, 1897.

Creston Bader Esq.
Supt. U.S. Mint.
New Orleans, La.

Sir.

I return herewith certain samples enclosed in your requisition for books for future assessment.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897.

Hon. Wm. E. Chandler.
United States Senate.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 18th instant, I have the honor to state that the average price of silver for the calendar year ended December 31, 1896, was $0.67565. At this rate, the commercial ratio of silver to gold was as 1 to 30.66.

From the information now at hand I estimate the production of gold in the United States during the calendar year 1896, to have approximated $51,500,000., and the silver product about 53,000,000 ounces, coining value in silver dollars being $68,525,000, giving a percentage of production as follows:-

Gold..... 37.6 percent.
Silver... 62.4 "

The World's production of gold for 1896, it is estimated will be from $215,000,000 to $220,000,000 and of silver, coining value, from $215,000,000 to $218,000,000, which

would make the percentage of the production, by value of the two metals, about equal.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897.

Edward Y. Hewitt, Esq.
#48 Beekman Street.
New York, N.Y.

Sir:-

In reply to your inquiry of the 14th instant, I enclose herewith a table of exports of silver to the east, 1881-1896.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897.

Herman Kuhn, Esq.
Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir.

I have received your personal letter in regard to the San Domingo coins, and I would say that if you do not think it advisable that the coinage should be done at the Mint, write me an official letter to that effect, and I will so notify Mr. Platt.

He has assumed in furnishing an estimate, that you would undertake the coinage. I have said nothing that would warrant this assumption.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 19. 1897.

Hon John R. Proctor.
President, Civil Service Commission.
Washington, D.C.

Sir.

I have the honor to transmit herewith 8 cards with the names of the employes of the Mint at Philadelphia, each department arranged alphabetically.

I will thank you to acknowledge the receipt of the same.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897.

Corey L. Wilson Esq.
United States Internal Revenue.
Greensboro, North Carolina.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant I would say that the designation of the members of the annual Assay Commission, rests entirely with the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, and to them you should make your application.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19. 1897

Hon. E. B. Leech,
National Union Bank.
New York. N.Y.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant

I enclose herewith copy of the regulations governing examinations and promotions in the Mints and Assay Offices.

The best that could be done for the gentleman you refer to, would be to get the Superintendent to appoint him for a period of ninety days, which he has a right to do under the rules.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased by the sum of three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000) by a transfer of that amount, in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the National Colorado National and Denver National Banks, Denver, Colorado.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897.

W. J. Puckett Esq.
Assayer in Charge U. S. Mint.
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a

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transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the National Colorado National and Denver National Banks, Denver, Colo.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco of the sum of Fifty-five Thousand Six Hundred and sixty-four $\frac{34}{100}$ Dol. Coin ($55,664 $\frac{34}{100}$) in Gold Coin, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson, as shown by Memorandum No. 4603. 4604 dated July 9, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19, 1897

J. N. Adams Esq.
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson,

Sir.

Deposit Memorandum No. 4603. 4604. dated July 9, 1897 of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco, Shipment No. 7, dated — has been re-

ceived and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $55,670.23. Charges $5.89 and net value $55,664.34. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19. 1897.

Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay bars taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of Dec. and Jan. 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 19. 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
San Francisco. Cal.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 12th inst. Certificate of Deposit No. 290 for $16.74 being on account of Alloy Chgs. (Coarse Bullion) Dec. 1st. 1896, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury

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properly indorsed and returned to his office.

— Personal credit to be given you in your bullion account and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to same addres, except- as noted.

+ + Deposit No. 292 for $6696.02 being on account of Parting and Refining Chgs. Dec. Dr. 1896 + + to the credit of the appropriation for parting and refining bullion.

+ + Deposit No. 291 for $750.96 being on account of Assay Chgs. Dec. Dr. 1896 + + + + + + as a miscellaneous receipt.

January 19, 1897

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:.

2 U.S. Dollars	Del. 6	$2.00
	Total	$2.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 19. 1897.

Herman Kretz Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia. Pa.

Sir.

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received. viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del 2.	$40.00
	Total	$40.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20. 1897.

To the Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

I have the honor to request that an appropriation of nine hundred dollars ($900.) be reserved to supply a deficiency in the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, for the current fiscal year.

There appropriations are required from the fact that it became necessary to procure a new Bullion balance and weights and his assay balances and weights, at the U.S. Assay Office at Boise City. The balances in use there having been condemned upon his occasion are found to be unfit for use and worn to such an extent that they could not be repaired, and that of Charlotte is caused by the fact that it was necessary to renew the assay balances at that institution. Both these

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appropriations are absolutely necessary.

Respectfully Yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20. 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Seventy-eight Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty one $\frac{34}{100}$ Dollars ($78,581\frac{34}{100}$) in Gold coin, and Five Hundred and Twenty-nine $\frac{24}{100}$ Dollars ($529\frac{24}{100}$) in Silver coin, making a total of Seventy-nine Thousand One Hundred and Ten $\frac{58}{100}$ Dollars ($79,110\frac{58}{100}$) being the net value of Bullion herein. Also forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum 31 dated Jany 16. 1897 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20. 1897

Hon. J. G. Carlisle
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir.

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.) by a transfer of that amount in gold coin, and that the same be

placed to the credit of the Superintendent of that institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1897.

First Auditor.
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the salary, wages, contingent, refinery and coinage of Lt. Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco, Cal. for the month ending December 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

accounts sent Jany 9, 1897.
" recd " 15, 1897.

January 20, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U. S. Mint, —
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 31, dated Jany 16. 1897 of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 31, dated Jany 12, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $79,337.25; Charges $226.67, and net value $79,110.58. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the

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United States Mint at Philadelphia.
Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20. 1897

J. W. Puckett, Esq.
Supt. U. S. Mint
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1897

Jno. Daggett, Esq.
Supt. Mint U. S.
San Francisco, Cal

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your pay, wages account, refining and coinage of Bul. Bullion Accounts for the month ending December 31. 1896 with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 21, 1897.

To the
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

Referring to your ordinary accounts for the month of December, I find that in the account for wages the name of J. J. Terry is carried as employed during the entire month. I must ask you to explain the presence of his name upon this roll, as the books of the Bureau show him to have been dropped some months before, at all events his name did not appear for several months previous. Please submit your explanation without delay.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Telegram

January 20, 1897.

Assayer in Charge, U.S. Assay Office.
Helena, Montana.

Draft for six hundred dollars on account of mining statistics mailed you today.

R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Chief Treasury Department.

January 20, 1897

Herman Kohn Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the month of January, 1897, and

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forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay. Have been received, viz:

2 Double eagles Del. 3 $40.00
Total $40.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1897.

John Taggart, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double eagles Del 3 $40.00
Total $40.00

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1897.

Superintendent U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir.

With a view to making improvements in the rolling of ingots at your Mint, generally and the Coiner's die Shop particularly, it is desired to visit the Works of the Scovill Manufacturing Company at Waterbury, Connecticut, and to examine the rolls used by the Company, and see what, if any, improvements there are over the rolls used by the Mint.

While engaged in this service, you

necessary Handling and other expenses will be paid upon your rendering an account. from the Appropriation for Contingent Expenses of the Mint of Philadelphia for the current fiscal year.

Upon your return, you will submit a report in writing to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt, of your Medal Fund Account, Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending December 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1897.

Overton Veale Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
New Orleans. La.

Sir:

I send, in a separate package, by todays mail, the commission of J. M. Claiborn who has recently been appointed to the position of Assayer in your Mint, which has been confirmed by the Senate. I will thank you to deliver same.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 20, 1897.

J. N. Adams, Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint, Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I desire to call your attention to the frequency with which corrected statements are forwarded by this Bureau from your Institution. It would appear from the small amount of work done at your Institution, that statements forwarded by you should be correct, but on a month passes but it is necessary for you to correct some statement. I have just received a corrected statement of five bars manufactured for the month of July last. It would be remembered by you that these statements are all entered up on the books of this office, and in this case six months afterwards, we have to change the words. I have noticed particularly the number of corrections that are made in your Carson daily statement.

I will thank you to give this matter your serious attention and to avoid these errors in the future.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 20. 1897.

Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

I will thank you to inform me the lowest price at which you will deliver to the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, five tons of the best ingot copper.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.

January 20, 1897.

Hon. Henry B. Miner.
House of Representatives.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 18th instant, you are respectfully informed that all positions in the New York Assay Office are now embraced in the Classified Service, and appointments are made from the eligible list of the Civil Service Commission.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1897.

Senor Don Matias Romero.
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
1413 O Street, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir.

In compliance with your verbal request, I have the honor to enclose herewith the average yearly price of lead in the New York market from 1870 to 1896 inclusive.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Personal:

January 20, 1897.

Hon. George L. Shoup.
United States Senate.

My Dear Sir.

I will submit the list of names known of the gentlemen recommended for designation as members of the Annual Assay Commission, which meets at the Mint in Philadelphia

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on the Bullion Fund.
If Messrs Handy Think to make certain of the designation of Governor McConnell it would be well for you to ask the Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 21. 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Sixty-two Thousand Six Hundred and ninety $\frac{90}{100}$ Dollars ($32.690 $\frac{90}{100}$) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Seventy-five $\frac{68}{100}$ Dollars ($275 $\frac{68}{100}$) in Silver Coin, making a total of Sixty-two Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-six $\frac{58}{100}$ Dollars ($32,966 $\frac{58}{100}$), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 25 dated January 15. 1897. of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 21. 1897

First Auditor
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement the salary, Wages and Con-

Xingard expense accounts of the Assayer-in-Charge of the U.S. Assay office at Helena, Montana, for the Month ending December 31st 1896, rendered one for the purpose of adjustments as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

accts sent Jany 4. 1897.
" recd " 9. 1897

January 21st 1897

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the salary, wages and Contingent expense accounts of the Assayer-in-Charge of the U.S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N.C., for the months ending December 31st 1896, rendered in one for the purpose of adjustments as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R.E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

accounts sent Jany 7. 1897
" recd " 9. 1897

Similar letter same address:

x x x at Boise, Idaho, x x December 31st 1896 x x x

Note error in transferring first item to Jany abstract of disbursements of Contingent expense accounts.

accts sent Jany 11th 1897
" recd " 16th 1897.

January 21. 1897.

C.B. Braden, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U.S. Assay Office
Helena, Mont.

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January 21. 1897

E. B. Braden, Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge U.S. Assay Office
Helena, Montana.

Sir:-

Deposit Memorandum No. 25 dated January 15. 1897. of Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 25, dated January 9. 1897. has been received and examined at this Bureau. and the gross value found to be $33,055 55/100, charges $ 88 97/100, and net value $ 32966 58/100 For the latter amount a transfer has been request. ed from the Bullion Fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 21. 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge U.S. Assay Office.
Helena, Mont.

Sir.

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your salary, wages and Contingent expense accounts for the month ending December 31st 1896. with my approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted:

W. E. Audrey, Esq.
Assayer-in-Charge.
U. S. Assay Office.
Charlotte, N. C.

Fr. J. Church, Esq.
Assayer-in charge
U. S. Assay Office.
Boise, Idaho.

× × × × × × × ×

The first bill transferred to your petty abstract of expenditures was erroneously done, the amount being entered $ 2.00 instead of $ 2.25, the correct.

In changing this your credit is increased by the additional .25¢ and your balance is changed from $ 348.83 to $ 348.58 which will be the amount to be taken up in your January account for Contingent expenses.

January 21, 1897

John Daggett, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U. S.
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the month of January, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:.

2	Double Eagles - Del. 4	$ 40.00
	Total	$ 40.00

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 21, 1897

Superintendent U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir.

I enclose herewith Department Circular No. 6, prescribing form and regulations for rendering accounts for the sales of old materials, etc., with which you will comply strictly hereafter when rendering your account for proceeds of old materials sold.

Respectfully yours,
R.E. Preston.
Director Julie Mint.

Similar letters to:

Superintendent U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, California.

Superintendent U.S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Superintendent U.S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada

Superintendent U.S. Assay Office
New York, N.Y.

Assayer-in-Charge U.S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Assayer-in-Charge, U.S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana

Assayer-in-Charge, U.S. Assay Office,
Charlotte N.C.

Assayer-in-Charge, U.S. Assay Office.
Boise, Idaho.

Assayer. in. Charge. U.S. Assay Office.
St. Louis, Missouri.

January 21. 1897.

Messrs. Lemcke & Buechner
No. 812 Broadway, New York.

Gentlemen:

Please order for the Bureau of the Mint the following missing numbers and indexes of periodicals:-

1. Le Economiste Europ'ew No. 213 bis. 9e volume, 1896.
2. " " Européen Table Alphabetique 9e " "
3. " " " " " 10e " "
4. " " Francais " Analytique, Juillet-Decembre 1896.
5. Bulletin de Statistique, Mai, 1895
6. " " " Juin, 1896.
7. London Mining World Jan. 25. 1896.
8. " " " Index, January to June, 1896.
9. " " " " July to December, 1896.
10. " Statist, December 26, 1896.
11. " " Index, January to June, 1896
12. " " " July to December, 1896.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 21. 1897.

J. W. McAvoy Esq.
No. 103 Dauphin St. Florence, So. Carolina.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant. You are respectfully informed that the medal enclosed by you is not gold but brass and is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 22. 1897.

Chief Auditor.
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the medal fund account of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa. for the Quarter ending December 31st, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director.

---

accounts sent. Jany 19. 1897
" rec'd " 20. 1897.

January 22. 1897.

Herman Kuhn Esq.
Supt. Mint U.S.
Philadelphia.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officer of the Department for examination and settlement your medal fund account for the

quarter ending December 31st, 1896. with any approval.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 22. 1897.

Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Co.
Keyser Building, Baltimore.

Sirs:

Your offer to deliver five (5) tons of the best ingot copper to the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, at twelve and one-quarter cents ($0.12¼) per pound is accepted.

You will please make shipment as early as practicable, forwarding your account receipted in duplicate to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 22. 1897.

Fred. Rauscher, Esq.
No. 51 South Elizabeth Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, you are respectfully informed that you can send the old gold you have to the Mint at Philadelphia, either by express or registered mail.

The value of the same will be returned you less the Mint charges. The value is determined by assay.

The silver you have, you would have to sell as bullion in the New York markets as the Government does not buy silver at present.

Respectfully yours. R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

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January 22, 1897.

J. H. Hollburn, Esq.
Asst Supt. Mint.

Sir:-

In reply to your postal of the 18th inst. you are respectfully informed that no gold coins of the denomination of the quarter dollar were ever issued or authorized to be struck at the Mints of the United States. The smallest coin struck in gold was one dollar.

Some years ago, jewelers in San Francisco, manufactured pieces which were called the gold quarter and half-dollar. The quarter containing about six cents worth of gold and the half about twelve cents worth. I presume that it is one of these pieces you have.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 22, 1897.

James M. Proctor, Esq.
Cashier. First Nat'l Bank.
Palmyra, Missouri.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 19th inst. you are respectfully informed that the Government does not purchase any silver.

The only disposition you could make of the Mexican Dollars you have would be to sell them in the New York market as bullion. The quotation yesterday in New York for these coins was from 50½ to 51 cents. At 51 cents, you would realize $74.46.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 22. 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.
Assayer in Charge U.S. Assay Office.
St. Louis. Missouri.

Sir.

Your letter of the 19th instant, in reference to old assay balances on hand at your office, received. Inasmuch as these balances are no longer of any use to the Government, you are authorized to sell the same at the best price you can obtain.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 22. 1897.

Charles D. Walcott, Esq.
Director, Geological Survey.

Sir.

In reply to your letter of the 21st instant, you are respectfully informed that I have not received any detailed information in regard to the output of gold and silver from Alaska. As soon as the same is received from the Mint at San Francisco, I will furnish you with a copy of the same.

I have this day written to San Francisco asking for copies of the tables showing the production of the different outlets in the Yukon District, and as soon as received, I will forward to you.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

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January 22. 1897.

Superintendt. U. S. Mint.
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

I am in receipt this morning of a letter from the Director of the Geological Survey, stating that the Statistician of the Mint has, in his possession, Statistics showing the production of gold from the different gulches of the Yukon of Alaska, and requesting to be furnished with copies of the same. If the facts are as stated you will please forward to this Bureau these statistics for as many years back, as are in the possession of the Statistician.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 22, 1897.

Bruton Coade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for Special Assay, have been received, viz:

2	Half Dollars	Del 110	$ 1.00
2	Quarters	" " 111	$ .50
		Total	$ 1.50

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

X X X X

2 Double eagles Wgt 4 $ 40.00
Total $ 40.00

January 22, 1897.

P. L. Benedict, Esq.
Public Printer.

Sir:

I regret to say that through some inadvertency in this Bureau, the tables that pertain to the documentary history of the Coinage Act of 1873, were omitted.

I send you herewith a book containing printed copy of the same. Mr. B. or Mr. Pike, of this Bureau, will fully explain where the tables should come in.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston.
Director of the Mint.

January 23, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

As requested in your letter of the 20th instant, you are authorized to purchase five hundred and fifty-six (556) ounces of silver bullion, in order to replace the amount of silver lost on sale of sweeps.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 23, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I enclose herewith Mint Receipts #720 and #723 for indorsement.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 23, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 23, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I return herewith Receipt and Certificate for Gold Deposit #1285, dated Oct. 7, 1896,- the Receipt being made out in the name of D. W. Steen, while the Certificate was made out in the name of R. F. McA. Afee. Please correct and return.

The Assay Report on Gold Deposit #1607,

dated Dec. 4, 1896, shows the weight after melting, to have been 5.65 ounces, while the entry on your Abstract Sheet shows the amount to have been 6.65 ounces from which amount amount all the calculations have been made. I enclose the Assay Report herewith, and if the amount as entered upon it is incorrect please correct and return as early as possible.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 23, 1897.

Charles Arndt, Esq.,
No. 50 Jefferson Street,
Memphis, Tennessee.

Sir:

Your letter of the 26th ultimo to the Hon. Josiah Patterson was referred to this Bureau, and in reply I would say that I have but one copy of "Mulhall's Tables", and as we have to refer to the same constantly, I am unable to loan it to you as requested.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 23, 1897.

Lorenzo Jones, Esq.,
Unionville, Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made in this Bureau.

over.

Assays are made at the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, at a charge of three dollars for each assay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 23, 1897.

Benjamin E. Smith, Esq.,
Managing Editor, Century Co.,
No. 33 East 17th Street, New York.

Sir:

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 21st instant, I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report on the production of the precious metals, for the calendar year, 1895, and for the World's production of gold and silver 1895, would respectfully refer you to. page 40, and for the stock of gold and silver coin and bullion in the United States January first, 1896, to page 33.

The figures of the production of gold and silver for the United States and the World for 1896, are now in course of compilation, and it will probably be some months before completed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 25, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Fifteen Thousand One Hundred and Seven 50/100 Dollars ($15,107.50) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Nine 04/100 Dollars ($109.04) in Silver Coin, making a total of Fifteen Thousand Two Hundred and Sixteen 54/100 Dollars ($15,216.54) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise as shown by Memorandum No. 28 dated Jany 21, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully Yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

January 25, 1896.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 28, dated Jany 21, 1897 of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 28, dated Jany 16, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $15,262.79; charges $46.25 and net value $15,216.54.

"For the latter amount a transfer has been requested

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from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

January 25, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 25, 1897

E. P. Reichhelm & Co.,
No. 80 Nassau Street,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Herewith enclosed please find Treasury draft for $13.09 in payment of your bill for laboratory supplies.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 26, 1897.

Hon J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer

be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Nineteen Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety-three $\frac{65}{100}$ Dollars ($19,393.65) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Eighty-eight $\frac{29}{100}$ Dollars ($188.29) in Silver Coin, making a total of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty-one $\frac{94}{100}$ Dollars ($19,581.94) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 26 dated Jany 16, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U.S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 26, dated Jany 22, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 26, dated Jany 16, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $19,631.60; charges $49.66, and net value $19,581.94. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 8	, 40.00
Total	,		, $40.00

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

4 S. S. Dollars	,	Dels. 8 & 9	, 4.00
Total	,		, $4.00

Overton Cade, Esq
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 112	, 1.00
4 Quar. Dollars	,	1134 & 114	, 1.00
Total	,		, $2.00

January 26, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 16th instant, inclosing a bill of the Charles S. Solomon Co.,

for work done in connection with the ore crusher in the sweep grinding room, I would say that after due consideration, and upon the explanation of the Melter and Refiner, I have decided to authorize the payment of this account.

You are therefore authorized to pay the same from your appropriation for Contingent Expenses for the current fiscal year.

The bill should be properly dated.

Hereafter no work of this kind must be done unless specially authorized by the Superintendent.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I will thank you to prepare and forward an invoice of gold bullion approximating ten million dollars ($10,000,000.) with a view of transferring the same to the Mint at Philadelphia at an early date.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

From certificates of deposit received, it

appears that on the 8th instant, you deposited with the First National Bank at Portland, Oregon, the amount of charges collected by you on bullion amounting in the aggregate to $1,173.82.

You had no authority whatever to make this deposit at Portland instead of with the depository bank in your city, and in doing so you violated the regulations of the Department.

You will furnish promptly an explanation of this matter.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

Hon. William M. Stewart,
Chairman, Committee on Mines & Mining,
United States Senate.

Sir:

In compliance with the verbal request made by you on behalf of the Committee on Mines and Mining, for a brief expression of my views as to the best method of procuring full and accurate statistics of the annual output of gold and silver product of the World, I respectfully submit the following:

The method employed by this Bureau of obtaining the annual output of gold and silver of the mines of the United States leaves little to be desired. The estimates of that output are based upon the reports of private refineries of the quantities of their finished product, placed by them upon the market each year, and the records of the Mints and Assay Offices

showing the amount of new gold and silver of domestic production annually deposited at those institutions.

The portion of the annual product of the precious metals in the United States that does not go either to the refineries, and the Mints and Assay Offices is comparatively small, and consists of the bullion contained in domestic gold ores, domestic copper and argentiferous matte, and domestic silver ore, exported for reduction abroad.

The amount of this bullion is accurately ascertainable. Every care is taken to avoid duplication, and that the bullion contained from foreign ores be excluded from the calculated product of the United States. The final result is an entirely trustworthy estimate of the gold and silver product of this country.

The statistics of the product of gold and silver in countries other than the United States are obtained by inquiries sent through the Department of State to the Representatives of the United States accredited to them, directing them to obtain from the respective governments answers to the following interrogatory:-

What is the weight, expressed in kilograms fine, and the value of the gold produced from the mines of the country, during the calendar year ---?

Some question is propounded as to silver.

From several countries, the statistics obtained are very satisfactory. Those from which fuller information of the output of

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gold and silver is most desirable, are Mexico and the South American States. Either there are no reports of the production of gold and silver in these countries received by the Bureau through the usual channels, or the reports that come to it are incomplete.

Nearly all the gold and silver produced in these countries, except the small amount used in coinage and in the arts, is expected to be smelted and refined in England, France, Italy, Germany, Belgium and the United States.

Of the finished product obtained from the exported gold and silver ores of Mexico and the South American Republics, in the refineries of the United States and Europe could be procured for each country separately, a more satisfactory calculation of their precious metal production could be made than is now possible.

While I cannot say positively what can be accomplished in this direction, I believe that an expenditure of some four thousand dollars ($4,000.-) in addition to the appropriation now granted for the collection of the statistics of the precious metals in the United States would result in obtaining more full and reliable information of the yearly gold and silver product of Mexico, and the South American Republics. The endeavor is certainly worth making.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 26, 1897.

Hon. W. P. Brownlow,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 25th instant, I enclose herewith the names of five persons who are actively engaged in silver mining; also the names of firms in New York, from whom fine silver can be purchased.

The letter of your correspondent is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Silver Miners.

David H. Moffatt,
Denver, Colorado.

Hon James B. Grant,
Denver, Colorado.

Hunter & Trumble,
Leadville, Colorado.

J. R. DeLamar, Esq.,
Mercur, Utah.

Chamberlain & Co.,
Georgetown, Colorado.

Bullion Brokers in New York from whom Silver can be obtained.

Handy & Harman,
No 32 Nassau Street.

J. & W. Seligman,
Fourth National Bank.

Zimmerman & Fordhay.

J. S. Gurney & Co.

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January 26, 1897.

W. L. Hertslet, Esq.,
Friedenau b Berlin,
Wieland-Strasse 19

Sir:-

I return the proof you forwarded me of your account of the American full-legal tender coins, with the following remarks:-

1.- The three dollar and one dollar gold pieces are no longer coined. Their coinage was discontinued by the act of September 26, 1890.

2.- The standard silver dollar continued to be coined after the passage of the Act of February 21, 1853. That act did not prohibit its coinage.

3.- The enclosed printed statement gives the number of silver dollars, the amount of subsidiary silver, and silver bullion in the Treasury, January 1, 1897, also the amount of gold in coin and bullion in the Treasury at the same date, and the value of the gold and silver certificates then in circulation. You may desire to substitute these later data for those to the end of 1895.

4.- The measure passed by both houses of Congress in 1894 was not for the coinage of $2,000,000 of silver per month, but, of the silver bullion purchased under the act of July 14, 1890, "to the amount of the gain or seigniorage of such bullion, to wit, the sum of $55,156,681, "and thereafter of the remainder of the silver bullion purchased in pursuance of the act of July 14, 1890, into standard

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silver dollars to be held in the Treasury for the redemption of the Treasury Notes issued in the purchase of said bullion.

The Presidents veto of this measure was received March 30, 1894. There are the only points on which the enclosed proof calls for correction.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

J. M. Deatherage, Esq.,
Waverly, Illinois.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 23rd instant, in reference to the coinage of silver dollars, I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully refer you to page 61 of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

F. R. McCabe, Esq.,
No 241 West Fourth Street,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 26th instant, I forward you by today's mail copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully call your attention to pages 50-54, for the amount of coin in the United States including bullion in the Treasury from 1800 to 1896 inclusive.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director of Mint.

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January 26, 1897.

Thomas Campbell Copeland, Esq.,
#43 W. 10th Street,
New York City.

Sir:

I enclose herewith tables of "Galley proof," as per the request contained in your communication to the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the 26th inst. referred to this Bureau for reply. These tables were taken from the latest Report of the Director of the Mint (Fiscal year 1896), which is now in press.

I trust they may prove satisfactory to you.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

H. A. Carr, Esq.,
Ambia, Indiana.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully call your attention to page 54 for the per capita circulation.

The gold result may consist of coin or bullion. All international balances are settled for on a gold basis.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 26, 1897.

Messrs Eimer & Amend,
205 & 211 3rd Avenue,
New York City, N.Y.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed please find draft in your favor for $92.70 in payment of your last bill for chemicals and laboratory supplies.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 26, 1897.

Senor Don Matias Romero,
E.E. and Minister Plenipotentiary.

Sir:

I regret that by an oversight, your letter of the 20th instant, has not been answered before this.

The average yearly price of lead given you, I should have stated in my letter, was taken from the "Mineral Industry" published by the Engineering and Mining Journal, New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

Ottomar Haupt, Esq.,
No. 1 Square La Bruyare,
Paris, France.

Sir:

In the seventh edition of "Arbitrages

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et Parites" you give the parity of the pound sterling and the Tripoli piaster in 1887, as follows:

1£ — 129 1/2 Tripoli piasters; and in the eighth edition state that in 1893, it was fixed as follows:

1£ — 127 1/2 Tripoli piasters.

Will you kindly advise me how these piasters are determined and whether there has been any change in the value of the mahbub since 1893. If there has, what is its value at present.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 26, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 27, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that owing to the increased amount of deposits of gold bullion at the western assay offices, as well as the necessity of transporting a large amount of gold bullion from the United States Assay Office at New York to the Mint at Philadelphia

for coinage, it will be necessary to obtain an appropriation of five thousand dollars ($5,000.) to supply a deficiency in the appropriation for Freight on Coin and Bullion, between Mints and Assay Offices during the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1897.

To the Director of the Mint,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

It is found that medals prepared by you in accordance with the official list submitted by the Executive Committee on Awards of the World's Columbian Commission for the following named persons:

Lieut. G. T. Emmons, U. S. Navy, - Roger Wells, (Collector) U. S. Navy, and Chauncey Wales Riggs, Chicago, Illinois, have been lost in transmission, and the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury has approved a recommendation that new medals be prepared in lieu of those so lost. Will you please prepare these medals at your earliest convenience and deliver them to me for transmission, with the new diploma, which is being prepared at this Bureau, for each of these exhibitors.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Claude M. Johnson,
Director.

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January 27, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 9	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 5	40.00
2 Eagles	" 6	20.00
Total		$60.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 115	2.00
Total		$2.00

January 27, 1897.

Herman Kertz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed please find draft

for $12.00 in payment of your traveling expenses to this city and return recently.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 27, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In compliance with your request, you are authorized to ship ten silver ingots to the Scovill Manufacturing Company for the purpose of being rolled, the same to be returned to the Mint after rolling.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1897.

F. R. Carpenter,
Deadwood & Delaware Smelting Co.,
Deadwood, South Dakota.

What would be the rent of a building suitable for an Assay Office at Deadwood? Answer.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Telegrams Confirmed.

January 27, 1897.

Hon. W. B. Allison,
United States Senate.

Estimate the cost of fitting up an assay office at Deadwood, including balances, furnaces and rent of building

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at five thousand dollars, first cost. In addition to this sum, it would require the same appropriation for salaries, wages and contingent expenses as at Boise, Idaho.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1897.

American Type Founders' Co.,
Nos. 139-41 Monroe Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 21st instant, you are respectfully informed that it would be illegal to make any die for striking fac similes in brass or other metals, of the medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1897.

Hon. Arthur Brown,
United States Senate.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 26th instant, I enclose herewith copy of a letter addressed to A. Hanauer, granting him authority to comply with the request.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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January 27, 1897.

A. Hanauer, Esq.,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sir:

This Bureau has been requested that permission be granted you to furnish statistics for 1896 of the Tintic Mining District of Utah for publication by one of the railroads running into the district.

There is no objection to your doing so over your own signature.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1897.

Copy

A. Hanauer, Esq.,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sir:

This Bureau has been requested that permission be granted you to furnish statistics for 1896 of the Tintic Mining District of Utah for publication by one of the railroads running into the district.

There is no objection to your doing so over your own signature.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Sent to Hon. Arthur Brown.

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January 27, 1897.

To the
Editor of "America and the World",
P. O. Box #456,
New York City.

Sir:-

I enclose herewith some "proof pages" from the "Report of the Director of the Mint for 1896", giving the latest information relative to the "Monetary systems" as per your request of the 3rd instant.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Company,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Gentlemen:

You will please strike and forward to this Bureau as early as practicable, medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition for the parties whose names appear in the enclosed copy of letter from the Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1897.

Hon. Charles W. Stone,
Chairman, Committee, Coinage, Weights & Measures,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I return herewith the reports on the coinage

of pure nickel by Austria-Hungary, Italy and Switzerland, kindly loaned me by you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 28, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	,	Del 10	, 40.00
2 Dimes	"	15	, .20
Total	,		, $40.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 7	, 40.00
Total	,		, $40.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, Lai.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 116	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

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January 28, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Months of January 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

January 28, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I will thank you to forward to this Bureau as early as practicable, a statement showing the amount of gold bullion deposited at your Institution, from Mexico, including the amount contained

in silver for the calendar year 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

January 28, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 28, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer in Charge, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 26th instant, requesting that the names of the depositors and amount of deposits received from the South Appalachian States during the year 1896, be forwarded you has been received and the same referred to the Superintendent of the Assay Office at New York, with the request that the information requested be furnished as early as practicable.

over.

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In this connection, I would state that the New York Assay Office has, for some time, been very much pressed with work. I have no doubt this is the cause of the delay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 28, 1897.

Hon. S. G. Hilborn,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 21st instant, enclosing a letter from Mr. G. A. Gillespie of Sacramento, California, making an inquiry as to whether or not the Civil Service covers the Mints, I have to reply that under date of May 26th 1896, the President issued an order embracing the Mints in the classified service, and I enclose herewith a copy of the regulations covering rules for entrance into as well as promotions in the Mints and Assay Offices.

The letter of Mr. Gillespie is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 28, 1897.

Hon. Joseph H. Walker,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find statement showing the imports production and exports of gold and the net increase and decrease of the gold stock from 1880 to 1895 inclusive,

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as requested.

You will please observe that I have appended a foot-note showing the amount of gold estimated to have been used in the Industrial Arts from 1880 to 1895.

Upon pages 296-301 and 308 of the Annual Report of the Director of the Mint for 1895, you will find the exports and imports of gold of Great Britain, France and Germany.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 29, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of One Hundred and One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixteen $\frac{27}{100}$ Dollars ($101,716.27) in Gold Coin, and Five Hundred and Ninety-nine $\frac{16}{100}$ Dollars ($599.16) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Two Thousand Three Hundred and Fifteen $\frac{43}{100}$ Dollars ($102,315.43) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 32, dated Jany 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

over.

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+ + + + Mint at Denver
+ Mint at Philadelphia + Seventy-seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-four $\frac{34}{100}$
+ ($77,824.34) + Forty-eight $\frac{58}{100}$ +
($48.58) + total of Seventy-seven Thousand
Eight Hundred and Seventy-two $\frac{92}{100}$ + ($77,872.92)
+ Bullion + Mint at Denver +
Memorandum No. 33, + January 25, 1897 + +

January 29, 1897.

Auditor for the.

Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement the bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded January 13, 1897
" received " 16, 1897.
Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-
+ + + bullion accounts
+ Assayer in charge + U. S. Assay Office
at St. Louis + Quarter + Dec. 31, 1896 +
+ + + + +
Accounts forwarded no letter.
" received January 25, 1897.

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January 29, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 32 dated Janiy 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 32, dated Janiy 19, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $102,581.17; charges $265.74, and net value $102,315.43. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

Deposit Memorandum No. 33 + Janiy 25, 1897,
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 33
+ Janiy 20, 1897, + + +
$78,052.17; + $179.25, + $77,872.92.
+ + + Mint at Philadelphia.

January 29, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement your bullion accounts for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

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Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

			Bullion Accounts
Quarter	Dec. 31, 1896,		

Forward statement of Earnings and Expenditures Dec. 2or. 1896.

January 29, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Eagles	,	Dec. 12	, 5.00
2 " Dollars	,	" 16	, .50
Total	,		$ 5.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Dec. 10	, 2.00
Total	,		$ 2.00

January 29, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

I enclose herewith Assayer's Report upon

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Silver Bullion, Receipt No. 4- Silver Half-dollars received for Recoinage. The weight after Melting of Assay No. 125, is inserted in pencil and does not agree with the figures on the Abstract Sheet, (See note on the Report).

Please have the same corrected and returned to this Bureau at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 29, 1897.

Dr Martin Garcia Mérou,
Envoy Extraordinary & Minister Plenipotentiary,
No 1521 K Street, N.W.,
City.

Dear Sir:

I will be under many obligations if you will kindly furnish this Bureau with the percentage of the different alloys in the nickel coin recently issued by Argentina.

Thanking you in advance, I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 30, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer

of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U.S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Charlotte

+ be increased in the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) + lawful money + Assayer in charge + as follows, viz:

$20,000.- with U.S. Asst. Treasurer at New York.
5,000.- with Commercial Natl Bank at Charlatte.

January 30, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U.S. Mint at Denver, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded Jany 7, 1897.
" received " 11, 1897.

January 30, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars, ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

W. E. Aydrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

+ + + Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) and that $20,000.- of this amount be placed to your credit with + Treasurer + United States at New York + $5,000.- with + Commercial Natl Bank at Charlotte.

January 30, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your bullion accounts for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

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January 31, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins received at your Mint during the Months of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar Dollars	Del. 17	,	.50
Total			$ .50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 117	,	2.00
2 Half Dollars	" 118	,	1.00
2 Dimes	" 120	,	.20
Total			$ 3.20

January 30, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I forward by express today, 77.90 ounces of mutilated gold coin and 1.65 of cornets and 1.57 ounces of counterfeit coin; also a bar of silver weighing 214.80, of which 48.47 standard ounces is from subsidiary coin.

You will please pay for the remainder of this at standard dollar rates. Please

make returns in currency at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 30, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

January 30, 1897.

Charles S. Platt,
No. 29 Gold Street,
New York.

Telegram Confirmed

Will reply to your letter of the twenty-first by today's mail.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 30, 1897.

Charles S. Platt,
No. 29 Gold Street,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 21st instant, I would say that you can communicate directly with the Superintendent of the

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Mint at Philadelphia in regard to striking the pieces for San Domingo. I will however, state that we will have to do this coinage in such a manner as not to interfere with our own coinage. This is the language of the law.

During the months of February the Annual Assay Commission will meet, and this will interfere, for a few days, with our own coinage in that months. It is understood that the pales given you are simply for striking pieces as at present we could not undertake to do any other part of the work.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1877.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise be increased in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars $100,000.- by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution by mire as follows, viz:-

$50,000.- with Asst. Treasurer U. S. at Chicago
50,000.- with Asst. Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

To the Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the Assay Office at New York to that of the Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of ten million, twenty-two thousand eight hundred and eighty dollars and sixty-seven cents ($10,022,880.67) payable in five hundred and thirty-eight thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine and eight hundred and thirty-six thousandths (538,729.836) ounces of standard gold bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia to the Treasury of the sum of three thousand dollars ($3,000.-) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued in exchange for standard silver dollars during the month of January, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 1, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Date a/c forwarded Jany 4, 1897.
" " received " 9, 1897.

February 1, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of One Hundred Thousand Dollars $100,000.- and that $50,000.- be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, and like amount with Asst Treas. U. S. at San Francisco by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 1, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay Office at New York to that of your Mint of the sum of ($10,022,880.67) payable in 538,729.836 ounces of standard gold bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.,

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of your Mint to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of $3,000.-, the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued in exchange for standard silver dollars during the month of January, 1897.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the

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proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your bullion accounts for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 1, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of your Institution to that of the Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $10,022,880.67, payable in 538,729.836 ounces of standard gold bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	,	Dec. 18	. .20
Total	,		$ .20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following: over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

4 S. S. Dollars	,	Dels. 11 & 12	, 4.00
		Total	, $4.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 Dimes		Del. 123	, .20
		Total	, $ .20

February 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I return herewith sample of book Form No. 484, which should be of recent date showing Form Number and full description for proper title.

Sample sheet for two books is also returned for information required by Department circular dated Oct. 31, 1896, enclosed herewith.

Blank books cannot be furnished by the Department and you are instructed to purchase six copies in your city.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 1, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, two accounts of the Union Pacific and Missouri River Bridge Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of July & August 1896, from New York to San Francisco, Cal. of Mint supplies amounting to 39¢, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint, fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L. herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
J. W. Adgus, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

+ + + Union Pacific and Missouri River Bridge + July & August 1896 + New York to Carson + 17 cents + Contingent expenses + fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L. herewith.

February 1, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I return herewith sample No. 42 with

the request that you furnish this Bureau with a copy showing form number.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

It is desirable that you should coin up as early as practicable the balance of the silver bullion on hand for subsidiary coinage.

In addition you will coin as many silver dollars as practicable during the month of February (without working overtime.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 30th ult. Certificate of Deposit No. 1494 for $18.00 being on account of Sale of Old Materials Jany 1897, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

No personal credit to be given you in

your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

(Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 1495 for $76.00 + Special Assays + + No personal credits + bullion + miscellaneous +

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 1496 for $1525.00 + Sale of By-products + no personal credit + bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

February 1, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

A few days since four hundred (400) cards like enclosed sample were sent you. I will thank you to return the same to this Bureau, as a special card is being printed for the Mints and Assay Offices.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

Telegram Confirmed.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

In addition to your gold coinage, coin as many silver dollars in February as practicable, with your present force without working overtime.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

Assayer in Charge U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

You are authorized to advance ninety percent on deposits of fine gold bars bearing the stamp of well known refineries.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Telegrams Confirmed.

February 1, 1897.

E. Rosewater,
Editor "Bee",
Omaha, Nebraska.

The President has designated you as a member of the Annual Assay Commission which meets at the Mint Philadelphia on the tenth instant. Please wire your acceptance.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 1, 1897.

Professor Albert S. Bolles,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that the President has appointed you as one of the Commissioners to examine and test the fineness and weight of the coins received by the several mints of the United States during the calendar year 1896.

The Commission will meet at the Mint at Philadelphia on the tenth instant, at ten o'clock A. M.

The Commission will probably continue

in session four days, from the tenth to the fourteenth instant.

No compensation is provided by law for the services of Commissioners, but necessary expenses in traveling to and from Philadelphia, and while attending the sessions of the Commission, will be reimbursed. Please notify me at your earliest convenience as to your acceptance of the appointment.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:-

Prof. Charles E. Chandler,
School of Mines, Columbia College,
New York, N.Y.

Hon. Gustav A. Endlich,
Pennsylvania.

William C. Little, Esq.
Corner Fourth and Cline Streets,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dr. Joseph W. Richards,
Lehigh University,
Bethlehem, Penna.

Prof. Ira Remsen,
John Hopkins University,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Hon. A. Louden Snowden,
No 1812 Spruce Streets
Philadelphia Penna.

Hon. S. M. Sparkman,
Committee, Coinage, Weights & Measures,
House of Representatives.

Hon. J. C. Bremeter
Com. Coinage Weights & Measures
House Representatives.

Hon. Wm. D. Bynum
Indianapolis Indiana.

Francis Bartlett,
Beacon St. Boston.

E. Rosewater
Editor Omaha Bee.

Hon. Stephen M. White,
Finance Committee,
United States Senate.

Cabell Whitehead,
Bureau of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

To the Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at New York to be increased by the transfer of one hundred thousand standard silver dollars, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said Institution with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson, for the Quarter endg. Dec. 31

1896, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Date a/c forwarded January 16, 1897.
" " received " 21, 1897.

February 2, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have this day requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of one hundred thousand standard silver dollars, and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States in New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your bullion accounts for the Quarter endg. Dec. 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

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February 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of Febouary 1897, has been approved for the sum of $40,850.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	25,000.
Contingent Expenses	1897,	8,000.
Parting & Refining bullion	—	3,000.
Coinage of Silver Bullion (Act July 14, 1890)		1,000.
Storage — — —		350.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York City, N. Y.

+ + February, 1897 + $12,800.00 +

Salaries	1897,	$ 3,000.
Wages of Workmen	1897,	2,000.
Contingent Expenses	1897,	800.
Parting & Refining bullion	—	7,000.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver Colo.

+ Salaries, +	February 1897,	$1,600	+ $ 600
Wages of Workmen,	1897,		1,000

February 2, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I enclose herewith for your information, letter addressed to Charles L. Platt, under date of the 30th ultimo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars Del. 13 , 2.00

Total , $2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I will thank you very much if you will furnish me with the address of the "Caribou Mining Milling & Smelting Co.", who deposit bullion at your Institution.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 30th ult. Certificate of Deposit No. 1805 for $15.00 being on account of Sale of Old Material has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury properly indorsed and returned to his office.

No personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

Hon. John C. Bell,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, enclosing a letter from the Hon. Horace Grant and one from Hon. John Campbell in reference to the striking of a medal at the Mint to commemorate the memory of General Pike, I regret to say that before the dies for this medal could be prepared at the Mint at Philadelphia, it would be necessary that a Bill should be passed by Congress authorizing the same, but if the Association will have the dies prepared, and the blanks or discs for the medals furnished, they will be struck at the Mint at actual cost.

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I will be glad to aid you in this matter in any way that I can.

I return herewith the letters enclosed by you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

Senor Don Joaquin Bernado Calvo,
Minister Resident,
No 1509 Twentieth Street,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herewith the estimate of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia of the cost of preparing one million Colones blanks.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

Professor F. R. Carpenter,
Deadwood, So. Dakota

Sir:

In reply to your telegram of the 29th ultimo, I would state that no action can be taken in regard to the renting of a building for an Assay Office, until the Legislative Bill now pending in Congress has been finally acted upon.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 2, 1897.

Captain W. A. Glassford,
Signal Officer, Department of Colorado,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo, I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the production of the precious metals, for the calendar year, 1895, and would respectfully refer you to Pages 34-38, where you will find the tables giving the estimated consumption of gold and silver in the Arts from 1880 to 1895. I would also refer you to Pages 42-49 inclusive.

These are the only reports that this Bureau has compiled of the estimated amount consumed in the Arts.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 2, 1897.

Mrs. Jones McFall,
No 1907 Poplar Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Madam:

Your letter relative to burnt money, has been received and the same referred to the Treasurer of the United States for reply.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 2, 1897.

E. Rosewater,

New York, N.Y.

Telegram Confirmed.

Commission meets at Mint Philadelphia on tenth instant and will be in session three or four days at the farthest.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,

Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Twenty-nine Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety three $\frac{33}{}$ Dollars ($29.793.33) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Eighty-four $\frac{10}{100}$ Dollars ($184.10) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty-nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-seven $\frac{43}{100}$ Dollars ($29,977.43) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No 27, dated Janiy 30, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896 rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Date a/c forwarded Jany 12, 1897
" " received " 18, 1897.

February 3, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 27, dated Jany 30, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 27 has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $20,053.89; charges $76.46, and net value $29,977.43. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 3, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your bullion accounts for the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 15	40.00
Total		$ 40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+	January 1897	+
2 Span Dollars	Del. 15	.50
Total		$ .50

February 3, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter of the Secretary of the Treasury under date of the second instant authorizing the same procedure this year as last, as to the mode of paying the traveling and entertainment expenses of the Annual Assay Commission.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find a letter of David H. Mead calling attention to an electric method of annealing. The parties interested in the latter called today, and offer to have the trial made here in the Patent Office laboratory, any day appointed. I have stated to them that if it were decided to witness a test, it must be in the presence of yourself, the Coiner, and Melter and Refiner, or other persons competent to pass judgment upon the process.

I will thank you to read the letter enclosed and return the same with any comments you may desire to make.

Inasmuch as the Annual Assay Commission meets on the tenth instant,

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I suppose it would not be practicable for yourself, the Coiner and Melter and Refiner to visit this city until after that time.

Please advise me when you would be at liberty to come here; the parties desire three or four days notice before the test is made.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I will thank you to cause to be struck and forwarded to this Bureau as early as practicable five gold medals, for officers and seaman of foreign vessels for saving the lives of American citizens.

These medals should also be supplied with cases, riders etc.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find draft on the Assistant Treasurer for three dollars and eighty-two cents ($3.82) for which I will thank you to forward to

the Hon. D. N. Morgan, two silver and minor coin proof sets of the current calendar year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Febuary 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith check in favor of Henry C. Baird & Co., for seven dollars and fifty cents ($7.50) in payment of their account for periodicals furnished your Mint, which you will please make a note of and deliver.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Enclosed please find bill, in duplicate, of W. R. Morton for the transfer of 20,900 pounds of copper from the Railroad Station to your Mint, under contract with the U. S. Quartermaster at San Francisco. If Morton has been paid by the U. S. Quartermasters Department, you can reimburse the amount, it being considered that the rate charged 3¢ per 100 pounds

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was reasonable, or you can approve the bill and certify to the correctness of the service and return it here for payment from your appropriation for contingent expenses.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 3, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I enclose herewith the account of the Baltimore Copper, Smelting and Rolling Company, receipted in duplicate for ten thousand (10,000) pounds of best ingot copper shipped your Mint. Upon receipt of the copper you will please forward the Company a draft on New York for the amount, namely $1,225.

To enable you to make payment in this manner I have requested that an advance of $1,225. be made you from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses, and placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.,
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Sirs:

Your account for ten thousand (10,000) pounds of best ingot copper delivered to the

Quartermaster for shipment to the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, has been received and I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of that Institution with instructions to remit you a draft on New York for the amount, namely, $1,225.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

William R. Boggs, Jr.
Winston, North Carolina.

Sir:

Your letter of the 23rd ultimo to Dr. F. J. Day has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that there is an Assay Office of the United States at Charlotte, North Carolina. The salary of the Assayer in Charge is $1,500; of the Assistant $1,250.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

José Olcovich, Esq.,
San Salvador, Central America.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 1st ultimo, you are respectfully informed that gold dollars are no longer coined by the Mints of the United States. The coinage of quarter-eagles is limited to a small sum annually. The only way in which

was reasonable, or you can approve the bill and certify to the correctness of the service and return it here for payment from your appropriation for contingent expenses.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 3, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I enclose herewith the account of the Baltimore Copper, Smelting and Rolling Company, receipted in duplicate for ten thousand (10,000) pounds of best ingot copper shipped your Mint. Upon receipt of the copper you will please forward the Company a draft on New York for the amount, namely $1,225.

To enable you to make payment in this manner I have requested that an advance of $1,225. be made you from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses, and placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.,
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Sirs:

Your account for ten thousand (10,000) pounds of best ingot copper delivered to the

Quartermaster for shipment to the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, has been received and I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of that Institution with instructions to remit you a draft on New York for the amount, namely, $1,225.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

William R. Boggs, Jr.
Winston, North Carolina.

Sir:

Your letter of the 23rd ultimo to Dr. J. J. Day has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that there is an Assay Office of the United States at Charlotte, North Carolina. The salary of the Assayer in Charge is $1,500; of the Assistant $1,250.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

José Olcovich, Esq.,
San Salvador, Central America.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 1st ultimo, you are respectfully informed that gold dollars are no longer coined by the Mints of the United States. The coinage of quarter-eagles is limited to a small sum annually. The only way in which

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gold coins are paid out at the Mints is in exchange for gold bullion deposited.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

William L. Lyons, Esq.,
Room 2, Morse & Cook Block,
Meriden, Connecticut.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year ended June 30th 1895, and would respectfully refer you to the Monetary Systems of the different countries of the World, which will be found in the appendix.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1897.

John Scully, Esq.,
No. 2802 Second Street, North,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Sir:

Your letter of the 28th ultimo to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are informed that a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the production of gold and silver for 1895, has been sent you by today's mail, in which you will find the latest information as to the World's production

coinage and recoinage of gold and silver, and the annual consumption in the Arts.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 4, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson, to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco, of the sum of Fifty-six Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-three $\frac{17}{100}$ Dollars ($56,943.17) in Gold Coin, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson as shown by Memorandum No 4906-4907, dated Janiy 28, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Mint at Denver + Mint at Philadelphia + Eighty-four Thousand One Hundred and Fifty-one $\frac{12}{100}$ Dollars ($84,151.12) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Sixty-four $\frac{58}{100}$ Dollars ($264.58) + + Eighty-four Thousand Four Hundred and Fifteen $\frac{70}{100}$ + ($84,415.70) + Bullion + Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No 34 + Feby 1, 1897 + + +

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February 4. 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States of the sum of four thousand dollars ($4000.-) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July 14th 1890, received in exchange for silver dollars.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 4, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 4906-4907, dated Janu 28, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco, Shipment No. 8 dated Janu 26, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $56,949.17; charges $6.00, and net value $56,943.17. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to :-

over.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 34 + Febry 1, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 34
+ Janry 28, 1897 + + +
$84,526.89; + $111.19, + $84,415.70.
+ + + Mint at Philadelphia.

February 4, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have this day requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of your Mint to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of $4,000., the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July 14th 1890, received in exchange for silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 4, 1897.

Telegram Confirmed.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

I desire that you come here, either Friday or Saturday, as may be most convenient, for consultation upon matters connected with your Mint.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

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February 4, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Months of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	,	Dec. 16	, 40.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 19	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 20	, .20
Total	,		$40.70

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 4, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of January 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

February 4, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution, during the Month of February 1897, has been approved for the sum of $10,200.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 2,700.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	7,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	500.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

February 1897

$2,000.00

Salaries,	1897,	$ 600.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	400.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

February 1897

$ 303.90

Salaries,	1897,	$ 213.90
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	90.00

over

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Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

February 1897

$369.50

Salaries,	1897,	$233.40
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	77.80
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	58.30

February 4, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I will thank you to prepare and forward to this Bureau a statement showing the amount of gold bullion that came from Mexico direct and was deposited at your Mint exclusive of the amount deposited by private refineries, for the calendar years 1891, 1892 and 1893.

This statement is desired for the information of the Mexican Government.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

February 4, 1897.

Hon. William Butler,
Judge United States District Court,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

You are respectfully informed that the Assay Commission of which you are an

ex-officio member, to test and examine the weight and fineness of the coins reserved at the several mints during the year 1896, pursuant to the provisions of Section 3547 of the Revised Statutes, will meet at the Mint at Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the tenth instant, at ten o'clock A. M.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:-

Hon. James H. Eckels,
Comptroller of the Currency,
Washington, D. C.

H. G. Torrey, Esq.,
United States Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

February 4, 1897.

Dr. David T. Day,
U. S. Geological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, I would say that we have no record of any assay of any gold ornaments from Annam or of any gold positively known to have been produced in that province of Asia. However, there has been a number of deposits made at the Mint at San Francisco of fine gold bars bearing the Chinese stamp the fineness of which averaged about 990.

I regret that I am unable to give

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you more definite information.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 4, 1897.

Louis Russell, Esq.,
Care of J. C. Harkner & Co.,
Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, you are respectfully informed gold bars of various degrees of fineness are received by the Mints. The charges depend entirely upon the amount of work necessary to be done. All gold deposits are settled for at the Mints and Assay Offices after the value has been determined by melt and assay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 4, 1897.

B. H. Warner, Esq.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Warner:-

I loaned you last Fall from the Library of the Mint, Weedon's "Economic History of New England" and also Walker on "Money" and have no record of their being returned.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

February 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 17	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

January 1897

2 Double Eagles	Del. 8	40.00
Total		$40.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

February 1897

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 124	2.00
Total		$2.00

February 5, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

C. L. Metcalf of No. 2028 Mission Street, San Francisco, forwarded to this Bureau some time ago, a letter written by you

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

August 20th 1895, dispensing with his services in the Mint.

He has requested its return but I have been unable to find the same. Will you please forward him a certified copy of your letter.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

As the Assay Commission will meet in Philadelphia on the 10th instant, I will be there for three days, and I have to request that you will come to Philadelphia for a final conference in regard to the new addition of the Instructions and Regulations.

While engaged in this service your necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 4th instant. enclosing statement showing

the value of gold and silver contained in Base Bullion imported at the port of New York during the month of January 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Telegram Confirmed.

If you think it advisable you are authorized to purchase mill for treating broken crucibles and sweeps at a cost not exceeding one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending January 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter, to:-

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

February 5, 1897.

To the Director,
Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 3rd instant, you are respectfully informed that the medal referred to has not as yet been delivered to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

Robert W. Furman, Esq.,
Asheville, North Carolina.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1895, and for the Monetary Standard and Systems of the different countries would respectfully refer you to pages 409-451 inclusive. The per capita circulation you will find on pages 40-41.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

C. L. Metcalf, Esq.,
No 2028 Mission Street,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of December 21st 1896, I would state that I remember very distinctly Mr. Filburn leaving the letter referred to

with me, but I have made a diligent search and have not been able to find it. I have therefore written the Superintendent of the Mint to send you a certified copy.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

G. W. Stone, Esq.,
East Jeffrey, New Hampshire.

Sir:

Your letter of the 26th ultimo has been received and in reply I would say that I do not believe the plan presented by you for preventing counterfeiting would be effective. Aside from this fact it is impracticable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Gentlemen:

I will thank you to cause a medal to be struck for the following:-

Olson Chace & Co.,

the original having been mislaid in this Bureau, and I have been unable to find the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

February 5, 1897.

Inglis Stuart, Esq.,
No. 611 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, I would say that the printing of the report for the fiscal year has been delayed, but a copy will be sent you during the coming week.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

Hon. Irving P. Wanger,
House of Representatives

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 5th instant I would state that persons desiring positions in the mint service now should file their application with the Civil Service Commission; and they will be notified when examinations will be held.

I enclose herewith a copy of the Civil Service Rules. There are no forms of application; it can be made by ordinary letter.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

Hon. Stephen M. White,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the second instant,

I would say that I would be pleased to have you present on the first day of the meeting of the Assay Commission, but as this seems impracticable, I shall hope to see you on the eleventh instant.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 5, 1897.

Henry T. Walker, Esq.,
Walla Walla, Washington.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that I estimate the capacity of the mints for the coinage of silver dollars at forty million dollars per annum, which would admit of the coinage of such an amount of gold and subsidiary silver as might be required.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Twenty-six Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty-four $\frac{06}{100}$ Dollars ($26,664.06) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Fourteen $\frac{01}{100}$ Dollars ($214.01)

in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty-six Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-eight 07/100 Dollars ($26,878.07) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 35, dated Feby 3, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

To the Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of Herman Kretz, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of two hundred and thirty one thousand five hundred and fifty-five dollars and sixty-five cents ($231,535.65) on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion, purchased under the Act of July fourteenth, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Febmary 6, 1897.

Hon. R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Sir:

I herewith enclose two standard silver

dollars, received from the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at St. Louis, and submitted for my opinion as to their genuineness. I have carefully tested the pieces and see no reason to doubt their genuineness.

The 1887 coin is about 5 grains light; this is an excessive loss for ten years service, but an inspection of the coin shows that it has been subjected to very rough usage. The 1891 coin is almost standard, and after cleaning, there seems no reason to question its genuineness. The dark stains on these coins were probably due to the sulphur as they were easily removed with a dilute solution of cyanide of potassium, having a smooth surface.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) Cabell Whitehead
Assayer.

February 6, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 35, dated Feby 3, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 35, dated Jany 30, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $26,951.20; charges $73.13, and net value $26,878.07. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston, Director of Mint.

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February 6, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I have this day requested that there be deposited in the Treasury in your name, the sum of $231,555.65, on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	Dec 21	.20
Total		$ .20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the

expenses of your institution during the Month of February 1897, has been approved for the sum of $3,300.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 1,200.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,200.
Contingent Expenses,	1897;	300.
Parting & Refining bullion		600.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salaries, Wages, Contingent Expense, & Parting & Refining bullion Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Month ending January 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 6, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Parting and

Refining accounts for the months ending January 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:-

Replying to your request of the 9th ultimo, relative to the amount of Colorado bullion treated by the "Chicago and Aurora Smelting and Refining Co." during 1896, I find from their statement, that the amounts are as follows:-

Gold, 98.988 fine ounces.
Silver, 5,589,295 " "

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Your letter of the 1st instant, explaining the deposit of the earnings of your Institution at Portland, Oregon received.

Inasmuch as you have an account with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, you will, hereafter, make your deposits with him by forwarding your check, giving instructions as to

the amount to be embraced in each certificate.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Yes, you can receive the deposit, provided you settle for the silver in fine bars.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

W. C. Little,
411 Olive St.,
St Louis, Mo.

Telegrams Confirmed.

Please wire if you accept appointment as a member of the Assay Commission.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Hon. S. M. Sparkman,
House of Representatives.

Please inform me if you accept the appointment as a member of the Assay Commission.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

John Boyle, Jr., Esq.,
No 703 Odd Fellows Building,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 2lst ultimo,

you are respectfully informed that the gold product of North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama, during the calendar year 1896, is estimated to have been as follows:-

North Carolina	$ 49,421.
South Carolina	100,394.
Georgia	142,623.
Alabama	6,284.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Sirs:

Referring to my letter of the 5th instant, the name reading Slaon Chace & Co., should read Sloan, Chace & Co., and you will please strike the new medal as per corrected name.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Sirs:

I have to request that you will cause medals of award of the Worlds Columbian Exposition to be struck and forwarded, with cases to this Bureau as early as practicable for the following:-

Miss Ellen Goransson of Ystad, Group 90,

Department of Manufactures.

Mrs. Hedda Gahne, of Stockholm, Sweden, Group 90, Class 569, Department of Manufactures.

Per Lindell, of Stockholm, Sweden, Group 150, Class 854, Department of Liberal Arts.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Gentlemen:

I send you per registered mail today, medal of award returned to this Bureau for correction.

You will please strike a new medal, as per the list enclosed herewith, and forward to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

H. Maynard, Esq.,
Villa Rica, Carroll Co., Georgia.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, you are respectfully informed that one thousand dollars in gold contains 48.375 ounces of pure gold. If you deposited sufficient pure gold at the mints to produce $1,000. the charges for the alloy, in order to reduce the same to standard, that is containing nine parts of pure

gold and one part of copper alloy, would be about eleven cents, for which the depositor would have to pay.

If you shipped gold bullion to the Mint, and requested its return in coin or currency, the expressage would have to be paid by you, both ways.

I enclose herewith Circular showing the least current weight of gold coins. When gold coins are abraded below one-half of one percent, the individual holder bears the loss, as the Government will only allow for them, coining value.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Philip F. Murphy, Esq.,
Iowa City, Iowa.

Sir:

In reply to your postal of a few days since, you are respectfully informed that the coinage of gold dollars was discontinued by the Act of September 25th 1890.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Senor Don Matias Romero,
Minister Resident,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

In compliance with your verbal request,

I have the honor to enclose herewith statement showing the imports of gold from Mexico by calendar years from 1891 to 1895, inclusive, and by fiscal years from 1892 to 1896 inclusive. I would add for your information that from returns received by this Bureau, from private refineries, and the deposits of foreign bullion at the Mints and Assay Offices of the United States during the calendar years 1894-5, the amount of gold credited to Mexico was reported to be as follows:

1894.

Reported by private refineries, as extracted from Mexican ores and bullion ___	$ 2,360,765.
Gold bullion deposited at the United States Assay Office at New York ___	735,787.
Deposited at the Mint at San Francisco ___	290,713.
Total ___	$3,387,265.

1895.

Gold extracted from Mexican ores and bullion, by private refineries, ___	$ 3,843,783.
Gold deposited at the U. S. Assay Office at New York, ___	560,775.
Mexican gold bullion deposited at the U. S. Mint at San Francisco, ___	504,745.
Total ___	$4,909,303.

See page 248 of the report on the production of the precious metals 1894, and page 289 of the same report for 1895.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

George F. Small, Esq.,
Assistant Treasurer, U. S.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I return herewith the two silver dollars, enclosed in your letter of the 4th instant, together with a copy of the letter of the Assayer of this Bureau to whom they were submitted for an opinion as to their genuineness, of which I do not think there is any question.

The postscript of your letter is so badly blurred in copying that I cannot decipher it.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 6, 1897.

Robert N. Thompson, Esq.,
President, Orford Copper Co.,
Post Office Box 1325, New York, N.Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 5th instant, advising the shipment by you to the Philadelphia Mint of one hundred (100) pure nickel blanks, and also of a like amount to this Bureau, has been received.

The Express Company has delivered to this Bureau those forwarded here, and I have to thank you for your kindness in the matter. I will have specimen coins struck from these blanks, during the coming week, probably on Thursday the eleventh instant, at the Mint at Philadelphia, and should you desire to have a represen-

lative to witness the striking of the coins, you can do so.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 8, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty-three $\frac{93}{100}$ Dollars ($15,583.93) in Gold Coin, and Fifty-eight $\frac{22}{100}$ Dollars ($58.22) in Silver Coin, making a total of Fifteen Thousand Six Hundred and Forty-two $\frac{15}{100}$ Dollars ($15,642.15) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, as shown by Memorandum No. 1 dated Feby 4, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

\+ + Assay Office at Boise
+ Mint at Philadelphia + Fifteen Thousand
Seven Hundred and Forty-four $\frac{40}{100}$ + ($15,744.40) +
One Hundred and Seventy-seven $\frac{24}{100}$ + ($177.24) +
Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-one $\frac{64}{100}$ + ($15,921.64)
+ Bullion + Assayer in charge + at Boise
+ Memorandum No. 29 + Feby 4, 1897 + +

February 8. 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 1, dated Feby 4. 1897. of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 1 dated Jany 30. 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $15,680.47; charges $38.32, and net value $15,642.15. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 29 + Feby 4. 1897, + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 29 + Jany 30. 1897 + + + + + + + + + +

$15,968.93;	$47.29,		$15,921.64.

February 8. 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins received at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the

Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	Dec. 22	.50
Total		$.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Quar. Dollars	Dec. 18	.50
Total		$.50

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Dec. 125	2.00
Total		$2.00

February 8, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February 1897, has been approved for the sum of $1029.- payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz.

Salaries,	1897.	$ 249.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	580.
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	200.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

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February 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the Certificate of Deposit No. 9273 for $50,000.00 being on account of Minor Coinage Profits, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as profits on Minor Coinage.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 8, 1897.

Andrew Mason,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Telegram Confirmed.

You will be designated today as a member of the Annual Assay Commission

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 8, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salaries, Wages and Contingent expense

Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending January 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter to:

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

February 8, 1897.

Senor Don J. B. Calvo,
(Minister Resident, Costa Rica)
#1509 Twentieth Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In reply to your inquiry of the 6th instant, relative to the number of Ten-Colons gold pieces that can be obtained from an ounce of gold 0.900 fine, I have to say that there would be 3.997969, or practically, 4 Ten-Colons to an ounce.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Eleven Thousand and Seventy-two $\frac{92}{100}$

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Dollars ($11,022.92) in Gold Coin, and Fifty 49/100 Dollars ($50.49) in Silver Coin, making a total of Eleven Thousand and Seventy-three 41/100 Dollars ($11,073.41) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 28, dated February 4, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 28, dated Feby 4, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 28 dated January 30, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $11,100.44; charges $27.03, and net value $11,073.41. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find check for

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$10.75, in payment of your bill for expenses from Philadelphia to Washington and return.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 20	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find Treasury transfer check No. 24876 on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia in your favor for the sum of $282.20, the same being the value of special assay coins forwarded by you to this Bureau during the quarter ended December 31, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

over.

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Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + Treasury transfer check No. 6659
+ Assistant Treasurer + at San Francisco
+ $1,353.60, + value of special assay coins +

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

+ + Treasury transfer check No. 5040
+ Assistant Treasurer + New Orleans + $72.40
+ value of special assay coins + +

February 9, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Telegram confirmed. Will hand you your official notification at the mint tomorrow morning.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

To the
Board of Assay Commissioners.

Gentlemen:

I have to inform you that during the calendar year, 1896, F. F. Claussen was appointed, October fourteenth 1896 as Assayer of the Mint at New Orleans, vice A. M. Delavallade, deceased. The Mint at New Orleans coined no gold during the year 1896.

No silver was coined during the month of January 1896.

There were no coinage operations at the Mint at Carson City during the year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mint.

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February 9, 1897.

W. H. Gassert, Esq.,
No 47, Beekman Street,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, you are respectfully informed that this Bureau does not publish a list of gold or silver mines in the United States, but confines its collection of statistics to the aggregate product of each individual State.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

Peoples Storage and Dispatch Co.,
No. 12 E. Street N. E.
City.

Gentlemen:

I enclose herewith a draft on the Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C. numbered 481190 in payment of freight and drayage, in the sum of two dollars, forty-three cents ($2.43).

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 9, 1897.

Hon. Stanyarne Wilson,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant,

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

I would say that there is no assay office in which assays of ores are made free.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 10, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery expense accounts, of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York City for the month ending January 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director.

Accounts sent Feby 5, 1897.
" recd " 6, 1897.

February 10, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department, for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery expense accounts for the month ending January 31, 1897 with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 21	, 40.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 23	, .50
Total	,		$40.50

Respectfully Yours,
B. F. Butler,
Actg Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Quar. Dollars	,	Del. 19,	, .50
Total	,		$.50

February 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage and Storage of Silver Bullion Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the months ending January 31, 1897.

Respectfully Yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following: over.

E. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint-U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

+ + Salary, Wages, Contingent
+ Refining + month + January 31, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + Salary, Wages, & Contingent
+ month + Jany 31, 1897.

February 10, 1897.

J. W. Broughton, Esq.,
No. 705 Rialto Building,
Chicago, Illinois.

Sir:

As per your request of the 8th instant, I enclose herewith price list of proof coins and medals which can be obtained from the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 10, 1897.

A. L. Key, Esq.,
Encinitas, San Diego Co., California.

Sir:

I enclose table of the production of gold and silver in the World 1860-1895, as per your request of a recent date.

The figures for 1896 have not yet been compiled.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

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February 10, 1897.

Charles Edward Major, Esq.,
No. 52 Pearl Street,
Rochester, New York.

Sir:

In answer to your inquiry of the 1st instant, I enclose herewith a table showing the gold and silver production by States and Territories of the United States for 1895.

The following table giving the production of copper is taken from the "Mineral Industry 1895."

Copper Production of the United States, 1895.

States.	Pounds of Pure Copper.
Arizona	48,329,403.
California	225,650.
Colorado	6,125,000.
Michigan	129,740,765.
Montana	194,768,925.
Utah and Southern States	3,255,000.
All Others	1,344,350.
Total	386,453,850.

I am unable to give you the figures showing the production of lead by States. The estimates of these products for 1896, have not yet been made.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 81

February 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 22	,	40.00
Total		,	$40.00.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Quar. Dollars	Del. 20	,	.50
2 Dimes	" 21	,	.20
Total		,	$ .70

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 126	,	2.00
Total		,	$ 2.00

February 11, 1897.

Messrs. Leucke & Buechner,
812 Broadway, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find your bill for subscriptions for the current year which

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I will thank you to receipt as it cannot be paid by our disbursing officer until this formality is complied with.

In this connection I will thank you to send receipted bill covering all bills to date that have been sent the Bureau from time to time and that have not already been paid.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director.

February 11, 1897.

Scovill Mfg. Co.,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Gentlemen:

I send you per registered mail today, a box containing medals returned to this Bureau for correction in the names.

I will thank you to strike new medals with the names correctly placed upon the same, as per lists enclosed herewith and forward to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Actg Director of the Mint.

February 11, 1897.

Charles A. Watson, Esq.,
No 234 Broadway, New York.

Sir:

Your letter of the 9th instant, enclosing mutilated two-dollar note, has been received and the same referred to the Treasurer of the United States for reply.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler, Actg Director.

February 12, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:-

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Sil. Bul. accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, for the month ending January 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director.

Accounts sent Feby — 1897.
" recd " — 1897.

February 12, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Silver Bullion accounts for the month ending January 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
Acting Director.

February 12, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	Del. 22	.20
Total		$ .20

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 127	2.00
Total		$ 2.00

Febuary 13, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Sil. Bul. accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, La. for the month ending January 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Feby 4, 1897.
" recd " 6, 1897.

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February 13, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refining and Coinage & Bul. accounts for the month ending January 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 13, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of Jany & Feby 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + + January 1897 + +
+ + + + +

over

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.
+ + Jany & Feby 1897 +

February 13, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In addition to the medals ordered for the State Department on the third instant, you will please cause to be struck seven (7) gold medals of the same design for the use of that Department.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at San Francisco to that of the Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of thirty thousand one hundred and sixty dollars ($30,160.) in gold coin, and two thousand eight hundred thirty-eight dollars and fifty-five cents ($2,838.55) in silver coin, a total of thirty-two thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-five cents ($32,998.55) the same being the value of coins received from

the coinage of the Mint at San Francisco, during the calendar year, 1896, for test by the Annual Assay Commission, and now in the custody of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

+ + + Bullion Fund + United States Mint at New Orleans + Mint at Philadelphia + two thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight dollars ($2,898.) in silver coin + reserved + coinage + Mint at New Orleans + 1896 + test by Annual Assay Commission + +

February 15, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of John Daggett, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, the sum of two hundred and forty-five thousand nine hundred and fifty one dollars and twenty-four cents ($245,951.24), on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion, purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address: over.

+ + + deposited in the Treasury
+ name of Overton Cade + at New Orleans
+ eighty thousand, six hundred and eight
dollars and ninety-seven cents ($80,608.97)
+ profits on the coinage of silver bullion
+ Act of July 14, 1890 + + +

February 15, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name the sum of ($80,608.97,) on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion, purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + deposited in the Treasury
+ your name + $245,957.24 +
profits on the coinage of silver bullion
+ Act of July 14, 1890 + + +

February 15, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of February 1897 and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Euar. Dollars	,	Del. 24	, .50
Total	,		, $.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 9	, 40.00
2 S. S. Dollars		" 23	, 2.00
Total	,		, $ 42.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 128	, 2.00
Total	,		, $ 2.00

February 15, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your

Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Silver Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending January 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 15, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram Confirmed.

Annual assay of coins from your Mint, satisfactory.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Enclosed please find returned the official Bond of W. H. Kelly, Assistant Assayer of your Mint, and attention invited to the slip of the Chief Clerk of the Solicitor's Office, should Mrs. Doolittle be a married woman evidence should show that she holds separate estate. If, however, it will be just as easy to secure another surety, it would be well to do so to avoid complications.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

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February 15, 1897.

J. C. Brown, Esq.,
Statistician, Produce Exchange,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have to reply to the inquiries contained in your letter of the 11th instant, as follows:

The gross weight of the Indian Rupee is 180 grains.

It contains 165 grains of pure silver and 15 grains of copper alloy.

The fineness is 916 2/3.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1897.

Hon. H. W. Cannon,
Pres't, Chase National Bank,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1896, ordinary binding.

As soon as the Library edition is received, I will forward you a copy of the same, for your own use.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1897.

Charles Edward Major, Esq.,
No 52 Pearl Street,
Rochester, New York.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant,

you are respectfully informed that the gold and silver product of Arizona, as furnished you in the letter of this Bureau on the tenth instant, was the total product.

For your information, I would say that this Bureau receives returns from every private smelting and refining establishment in the United States, showing the amount of gold and silver extracted by them from the ores of the respective States during any year.

The figures as sent you, were compiled from these returns, and the returns received from the mints and assay offices of free gold deposited. The estimate of the Governor of the Territory of Arizona of the product of gold and silver, is entirely too high, and is not substantiated by any of the returns received from the private smelting or refining establishments.

The "Mineral Industry" is published by the Scientific Publishing Company, No. 263 Broadway, New York, the price of which is five dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1897.

Mrs. James H. Pendleton,
Woodville, Mississippi.

Madam:

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, you are respectfully informed that mutilated silver coin is purchased as bullion at the market price for silver.

If the dollars referred to are forwarded to the Mint at New Orleans, their bullion value will be returned, which at the present market price for silver, will be about fifty cents per piece.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

February 15, 1897.

E. J. Renick, Esq.,
Chief Clerk, Department of State.

Sir:

I submit herewith two styles of cases for medals, and I will thank you to indicate the design you would prefer to have for the gold medals recently ordered for the Department of State.

The leather pocket case will cost from seven to eight dollars per dozen. The wood box, leather covered from one to two dollars each. Please return the cases with your decision.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1897.

George W. Wilson, Esq.,
Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, you are respectfully informed that no change has been made by France in the ratio of the coinage between gold and silver since 1805, when the

ratio of 1 to 15 1/2 was adopted.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1897.

Miss M. E. Welsh,
Lincoln, Lincoln Co., Tenn.

Miss:

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, you are respectfully informed that 22 carat gold is worth $18.95 per ounce. The alloy to be added to 22 carat gold to reduce it to standard, that is to contain 900 parts of pure gold and one part of copper alloy, would be about one cent per ounce.

Gold jewelry is received at the Mints and its value is determined by melt and assay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson, Nev. for the month ending January 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:- over.

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+ + + Salary, Wages, Contingent
Refinery & Coinage of Sil Bul. + Superintendent
+ U.S. Mint at San Francisco + Monthly
+ January 31, 1897 + + +
Accounts sent February 8, 1897.
" recd " 15, 1897.

+ + + Bullion accounts
+ Superintendent + Mint at San Francisco
+ Quarter + Dec. 31, 1896 + + +
Accounts sent Janiy 20, 1897.
" received " 26, 1897.

February 16, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the following report showing the number of public documents printed and distributed by this Bureau, during the calendar year 1896, and the number on hand, December 31st 1896:

Title.	Received.	Distributed.	On Hand.
Report, Director of the Mint on production of gold and Silver 1895.	1,000.	800	200.
Report, Director of the Mint, fiscal year 1895	5,000	4,900	100.
Monetary Legislation and Coinage System U.S.	2,000	2,000	
Production and Coinage of U.S. and the World	1,000	1,000	
Coinage Act 1873	1,000	780	220.
Proceedings Annual Assay Commission 1896	300	250	50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson, to that of the United States at San Francisco of the sum of Fifty-one Thousand Two Hundred and Seven $\frac{43}{100}$ Dollars ($51,207.43) in Gold Coin, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson, as shown by Memorandum No. 5089-5090, dated Feby 8, 1897 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

+ + Mint at Denver + Mint at Philadelphia + Eighty-six Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty-two $\frac{09}{100}$ + ($86,422.09) + Two Hundred and Twenty-nine $\frac{44}{100}$ + ($229.44) + Eighty-six Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty-one $\frac{53}{100}$ + ($86,651.53) + Bullion + Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No. 36 + Feby 8, 1897 + + +

+ + Assay Office at Helena + Mint at Philadelphia + Twenty-seven Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-eight $\frac{94}{100}$ + ($27,688.94) + Two Hundred and Fifteen $\frac{41}{100}$ + ($215.41) + Twenty-seven Thousand Nine Hundred and Four $\frac{35}{100}$ + ($27,904.35) + Bullion + Assayer

over.

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+ Assay Office at Helena + Memorandum
No 29, + Feby 12, 1897. + + +

February 16, 1897.

E. N. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 3089-3090, dated Feby 8, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco, Shipment No. 9 dated Feby 8, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $51,212.81; charges $5.38, and net value $51,207.43. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 36 + Feby 8, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 36
+ Feby 3, 1897. + + +
$86,798.51; + $146.98 + $86,651.53.
+ + + + Philadelphia.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Deposit Memorandum No. 29 + Feby 12, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 29

+ February 6, 1897 + + +
$27,979.00; + $74.65, + $27,904.35.
+ + + Philadelphia.

February 16, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refining expense accounts for the month ending January 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + + Salary, Wages
Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Sil. Bul.
+ Months + January 31, 1897 + +

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + + + +
bullion accounts + Quarter +
Dec. 31, 1896 + +

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February 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Dec. 26	40.00
Total		$ 40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I have to request that you will cause to be struck two (2) gold and two (2) silver medals of the usual design for the use of the Department of State.

It is very desirable that these medals be struck and forwarded to this Bureau without delay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1897.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The Treasurer will transfer from your Bullion Fund five million dollars in

gold coin at the rate of one million dollars per day.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 16, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The parties who have the apparatus for electric annealing would like to make a trial on Saturday next, and if convenient I would like to have yourself, the Coiner and the Melter and Refiner, come here on that day.

Please advise me by return mail in order that I may give you the necessary authority.

They state that the apparatus ~~that~~ they now have is of such a limit that they can only anneal strips one foot long, one and one-half inches wide and one quarter inches thick.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

January 16, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have this day approved and referred for payment bill of the D. M. Dept. for services of W. R. Morton in transferring

copper from the railroad station to your Mint Nov. 6th, 1896.

Duplicate bill and B/L herewith. Payment has been made from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 16, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Mr. Allen, Melter of your Mint, has made application for leave of absence for (30) days from the 25th instant, which is granted subject to your approval, because this Bureau is not in position to know when his absence can best be spared.

Respectfully yours.
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 16, 1897.

Hon. Henry C. Brewster,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Referring to the conversation had with you some days since in reference to the amount of mutilated domestic silver coin, purchased as bullion by the Mints, I have had a careful examination of the accounts made with a view to ascertaining the nominal value of such coin, purchased

since January 30th, 1882, the date such purchases were authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury.

I regret to say that it has only been within the last three years that an account has been kept at the Mints, showing the nominal value of such coins. Prior to 1894, these coins were simply purchased by weight, as so much bullion, at the prevailing price of silver. From an examination of the accounts of silver purchased since January 30th 1882, I estimate that the nominal value of domestic coin purchased as bullion, has aggregated $300,000.

The purchases for the first five or six years apparently ranged from $25,000 to $30,000, nominal value.

For the fiscal year 1895, the nominal value of the mutilated domestic silver coin purchased as bullion was $7,523 and for 1896, $6,420.58.

Experience has proven that since the Government declined to receive and redeem mutilated silver coin at its face value, little of such coin now finds its way to the Treasury for redemption, and the inquiries in reference to the redemption of such coin are comparatively few. Bankers, merchants and individuals, following the action of the Treasury Department, refusing to receive the same, has greatly discouraged the mutilation of such coins, and the amount of mutilated silver coins now in circulation is estimated to be small.

There does not seem to be any good reason

why the person who mutilates a coin should not suffer the consequences. I know of no Government that redeems mutilated silver coin at the coining value. The silver coins of the United States are redeemed at their face value in other money, when not mutilated, their being no law as to the limit of abrasion, so long as the denomination can be distinguished.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1897.

Messrs Lemcke & Buechner,
#812 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find Treasury draft for $129.32 in payment of subscriptions for 1897, and books and pamphlets to date, furnished to the Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 16. 1897.

B. H. Warner, Esq.,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Warner:.

I loaned you last Fall from the Library of the Mint, Weedon's "Economic History of New England" and also Walker, on "Money", and have no record of their being returned.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

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February 17, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts of the Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Mint at Denver, Colo. for the month ending January 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Feby 4, 1897.
" recd " 8, 1897.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense + Assayer + U. S. Assay Office + Helena, Montana + Month + January 31, 1897 + +

Accounts sent Feby 2, 1897.
" recd " 6, 1897.

February 17, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts for the month ending January 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

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E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

and Contingent expense January 31, 1897	Salary, Wages Month

February 17, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 24	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 129	2.00
Total		2.00

February 17, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I return herewith the bills for the expenses of the Annual Assay Commission, enclosed

in your letter of the 15th instant, approved by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 17, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

The enclosed account was received with your Ordinary Expense accounts for the month of January, but without vouchers. It is not important that you should render monthly accounts of your expenditures from the appropriation for Contingent expenses, Office Director of the Mint, but when you do render an account, please remember that in all cases Vouchers must accompany same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

February 17, 1897.

Robert Peele, Esq.,
No 18 Broadway, New York.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Seies weighing machines used in the Mint at Philadelphia are manufactured in Austria. The agent in this country is Mr. F. G. Janusch, Nos. 213-5 East 44th Street, New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

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February 17, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Sirs:

I will thank you to have struck and forwarded to this Bureau as early as practicable, medals of award of the following named persons:-

Group 106.

Mrs. J. Hollingsworth, Mrs. Jane Holdsworth.

Group 110.

Miss E. S. Colby, Miss E. S. Colby.

The medals are returned you by registered mail today for correction.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 17, 1897.

Hon. Charles W. Stone,
Chairman, Committee, Coinage, Weights & Measures,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Under the Act of January 12th 1895, there can be printed of the fiscal report of the Director of the Mint, one thousand copies with, or two thousand five hundred copies without the appendix. As the value of the report would be greatly detracted from by printing it without the appendix, I have preferred to have one thousand copies with the appendix. The Act of January 12th 1895, makes no provision for supplying Senators or Members of the House of Representatives with this Report, and from the thousand copies furnished this Bureau, a copy is sent each Senator and Member.

After supplying each Senator and Member with a copy, the number remaining on hand is entirely inadequate to supply the legitimate demand. As a matter of courtesy a copy is sent each one of the foreign Governments from whom information is received, also to the Representatives of the United States in such countries, as well as to the different Mints of the same, and to the most prominent financial writers and statisticians in Europe and the United States.

Many applications are received from Public Libraries as well as from students in the Universities and Colleges both male and female in the United States. The applications received so far for the report for 1896 are about two thousand in excess of the number printed. I have therefore to earnestly recommend that you will procure the passage of a Joint Resolution, providing for the printing for the use of this Bureau of five thousand additional copies of the fiscal report of the Director of the Mint for 1896.

Of the report on the production of the precious metals for 1895, only one thousand copies were printed for the use of the Bureau of the Mint. This number is entirely inadequate to meet the demands, and it is very desirable that three thousand additional copies be printed for the use of this Bureau.

Applications are received daily from all parts of the United States for copies of the Coinage Laws. The Department is unable to comply with these requests,

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as by the terms of the Act of January 12th 1895, only one thousand copies of any pamphlet can be published in any fiscal year without special authority from Congress.

In view of this fact I would respectfully suggest the propriety of the passage of a Joint Resolution providing for the printing of five thousand copies of the Coinage Laws, to enable the Department to fill applications for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 17, 1897.

W. R. Boggs, Jr. Esq.,
Winston, North Carolina.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, you are respectfully informed that the position of Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, is a Presidential appointment, and application for the same should be made to the President or Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 17, 1897.

J. P. McDonough, Esq.,
Ocker, Texas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter, you are respectfully informed that the Mints have no old copper cents or three and twenty cent

silver pieces on hand, these pieces being melted as fast as they are transferred by the Treasury to the Mint.

While the statement of coinage executed at the Mints shows that in 1805, 321 silver dollars were coined, I am of the opinion that this is an error, and that these pieces were struck in prior years, but were not delivered by the Coiner to the Treasurer until 1805. I have no means however, of verifying this.

No double eagles were coined in 1849.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-nine Thousand One Hundred and Twenty-four $\frac{07}{100}$ Dollars ($99,124.07) in Gold Coin, and Ninety-eight $\frac{33}{100}$ Dollars ($98.33) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-nine Thousand Two Hundred and Twenty-two $\frac{40}{100}$ Dollars ($99,222.40) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 37, dated Feby 13, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise, Idaho for the month ending January 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Feby 5, 1897.
" recd " 9, 1897.

February 18, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 37, dated Feby 13, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 37, dated Feby 9, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $99.310.82; charges $88.42, and net value $99.222.40. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 18, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense accounts, for the month ending January 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of February, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 27	, 40.00
2 Dimes	,	" 25	, .20
2 Half Dollars	,	" 26	, 1.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 27	, .50
Total	,		, $ 41.70

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram Confirmed

Have included the Engraver in my authority

to come to Washington Saturday. Think it advisable that he be here.

R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

February 18, 1897.

James F. Bryant, Esq.,
Waverly, West Virginia.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant you are respectfully informed that there never was a specific charge of thirteen cents for coining gold dollars from any bullion. Prior to 1853 the coinage of both gold and silver was free. The Act of February 21st 1853, provided that silver coins of less denomination than one dollar should be coined on Government account only. Silver dollars, however, as well as gold, continued to be coined for individuals at the rate of one-half percent., which continued until the passage of the Act of February 12th 1873. By this latter Act the coinage of the silver dollar was discontinued and a charge of one-fifth of one percent provided for coining gold. This charge was repealed by the Act of January 14th, 1875, commonly known as the Resumption Act.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 18, 1897.

James Hurley, Esq.,
Post Office Box 302,
Lyons, Wayne Co., New York.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Government does not buy silver bullion, except the small amount that is contained in gold deposited at the Mint and that contained in mutilated silver coin.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1897.

R. M. Palmer, Esq.,
North Star, Michigan.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, you are respectfully informed that prior to 1853, the coinage of both gold and silver from standard bullion, that is bullion containing nine parts of gold or silver and one of copper alloy was free. The Act of 1853 fixed the charge for coining silver dollars and gold at one-half of one percent. Silver coins of less denomination than one dollar were coined on Government account only.

The Act of 1873, which discontinued the coinage of silver dollars reduced the charge for coining gold to one-fifth of one percent. This charge was repealed by the Act of January 14th 1875, since

which time the coinage of gold has been free.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1897.

Dr. Popp and Dr. Becker,
Neue Mainzerstrasse 52
Frankfurt a. M. Germany.

Gentlemen:-

Your letter of the 23rd ultimo to the Scovill Manufacturing Company has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that we have no authority to strike duplicates of the medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1897.

George H. Small, Esq.,
Assistant Treasurer, U. S.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that the only way to detect silver coins made from bullion approximating the weight and fineness of those stamped at the Mint would be weighing or assaying the same, or by some imperfections in the die.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 18, 1897.

James B. Thompson, Esq.,
No. 628 Equitable Building,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that prior to 1853 the coinage of both gold and silver from standard bullion, that is bullion containing nine parts of gold or silver and one of copper alloy was free. The Act of 1853 fixed the charge for coining silver dollars and gold at one half of one per-cent. Silver coins of less denomination than one dollar were coined on Government account only.

The Act of 1873, which discontinued the coinage of silver dollars reduced the charge for coining gold to one-fifth of one percent. This charge was repealed by the Act of January 14th 1875, since which time the coinage of gold has been free.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay,

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have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Dec. 28	40.00
2 Quar. Dollars	" 28	.50
Total		$40.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Eagles	Dec. 10	20.00
Total		$20.00

February 19, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

See letter Mining Book No. 3.

Relative to the production of gold and silver for 1896, the "Omaha and Grant Smelting Co." write as follows:-

"We have returned to the Denver Mint our receipts of Gold, Silver, Lead & Copper for 1896, giving the sources these metals originated."

Will you please forward such information as you may have relating to the source and disposition of the product of this Smelter, for the period above mentioned, and oblige.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Cannon,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter under date of April 12th 1895, from Mr. J. W. Adams, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Carson, Nevada, relative to the disallowance in his accounts for July and August 1895.

The statement of Mr. Adams is substantially correct and it would be a matter of justice if Congress would authorize Mr. Adams to be reimbursed for the amount of the disallowance, namely, three hundred and one dollars ($301).

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

February 18, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have arranged with the owners of the apparatus for annealing by electricity to give their method a trial, and for this purpose I will thank you to forward say a dozen strips of silver about one foot long, one and a half inches wide and one-quarter inches thick, or such samples of the silver strip you anneal not exceeding one inch in length.

I desire that yourself, the Melter and Refiner, Coiner and Engraver should be present

on Saturday if practicable, and you are authorized to come to Washington in order to witness the experiments.

The necessary traveling and other expenses of yourself, Melter and Refiner, Engraver and Coiner will be paid from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 20, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Thirty Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty-five 30/100 Dollars ($30,325.30) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Ten 36/100 Dollars ($110.36) in Silver Coin, making a total of Thirty Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty-five 66/100 Dollars ($30,435.66) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 30 dated Febiy 18, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 20, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at New York of the sum of Five Million Dollars ($5,000,000.-) in Gold Coin, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 20, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C. for the month ending January 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Feby 3, 1897.
" recd " 5, 1897.

Similar letter, except as noted, to same address:

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent expense + Assayer + Assay Office at St. Louis + month endg. January 31, 1897 + +

Accounts sent Feby 2, 1897.
" recd " 5, 1897.

February 20, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 30, dated Feby 18, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 30, dated Feby 13, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $30,509.73; charges $74.07, and net value $30,435.66. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 20, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of Five Million Dollars ($5,000,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 20, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts, for the month ending January 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, to:

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

February 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayers report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, except as noted, to: over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Daily & Febry 1897

February 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	Dec. 29	1.00
2 Quar Dollars	" 30	.50
Total		$1.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Dec. 130	2.00
Total		$2.00

February 20, 1897

W. C. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I return herewith for amendment, statement of Domestic Production for the calendar year 1896, as indicated in pencil, to conform

with the aggregate of the 12 monthly statements rendered this Bureau.

Please forward your corrected statement, together with the enclosure at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins received at your Mint during the Month of Febuary 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4 S. S. Dollars	Dels. 25+26	4.00
2 S. S. Dollars	" 27	2.00
Total		$6.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 131	2.00
Total		$2.00

February 23, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your letter of February 2nd (with drawings

for ventilating the Adjusting Room has been received and referred to the Supervising Architect.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1897, has been approved for the sum of $31,300, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

To be placed to your credit by wire, with Assistant Treasurer at San Francisco.

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,300.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	15,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	3,000.
Parting & Refining Bullion	—	2,000.
Coinage of Silver Bullion (Act July 14, 1890)		8,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1897.

Telegram Confirmed

Susan G. Cook,
Chicago, Illinois.

There are no Isabella quarters in the Treasury, all having been shipped to the Assistant Treasurer at Chicago, from the Mint at Philadelphia in May last.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1897.

Hon. H. C. Lodge,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the sixth instant, which by an oversight has remained unanswered, I enclose herewith copy of a letter of the Engraver of the Mint at Philadelphia to the Superintendent of that Institution in reference to the plan presented by Messrs Young Brothers, for preventing counterfeiting. I fully concur with the opinion of the Engraver.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1897.

Messrs. Rand McNally & Co.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Sirs:

I acknowledge with pleasure a copy of the January 1897, edition of the Banker's Directory and List of the Bank Attorneys in the United States, Canada and foreign countries, which will be of great service to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1897.

Hon. S. M. Sparkman,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I will be pleased to have you call at

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your earliest convenience and sign the report of the Annual Assay Commission.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1897.

A. J. Van Buren, Esq.,
Hardman, Saline Co., Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, you are respectfully informed that if you will forward the gold you have to the Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Assay Office at St. Louis, Missouri, the value of the same will be returned you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Eighty-six Thousand Four Hundred and Forty-four $\frac{87}{100}$ Dollars ($86,444.87) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Twenty $\frac{37}{100}$ Dollars ($320.37) in Silver Coin, making a total of Eighty-six Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-five $\frac{24}{100}$ Dollars ($86,765.24) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by

the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No 38, dated July 17, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Helena, + Mint at Philadelphia + Twenty-one Thousand and Seventy-eight $\frac{92}{100}$ Dollars ($21,078.92) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Eleven $\frac{54}{100}$ + ($111.54) + total of Twenty-one Thousand One Hundred and Ninety $\frac{46}{100}$ + ($21,190.46) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Helena + Memorandum No. 30 + Feby 19, 1897 + + +

February 24, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 38, dated Feby 17, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 38 dated Feby 13, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $86,979.71; charges $214.47, and net value $86,765.24. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to :- over.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Deposit Memorandum No. 30, + Febry 19, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 30
+ Febry 13, 1897 + + +
$21,244.66; + $54.20 + $21,190.46.

For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion Fund of Institution
+ Mint at Philadelphia.

February 24, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Months of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 31	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1897.

Grant L. Austin,
#212 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Your letter of the 23rd instant with enclosure has been referred to the Coast and Geodetic Survey. (Bureau Weights and Measures.)

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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February 24, 1897.

Thos. H. Ellis, Esq.,
No. 105 Falls Street,
Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 22nd instant, you are respectfully informed that if the resolution now pending in Congress passes, authorizing a new design for the coins of the United States, you will be afforded an opportunity of submitting designs for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1897.

Leucke and Buechner,
No. 812 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

I will thank you to procure for this Bureau, "A practical treatise, on the standard Weights and Measures in use in the British Empire, with some account of the metallurgic system by H. J. Chaney," published by Eyre and Spottiswood.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1897.

Mertland Prince,
No. 452 Thames Street,
Newport, Rhode Island.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 22nd instant,

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you are respectfully informed that the piece you have is not a coin of the United States, but was manufactured by some jewelers in San Francisco, and contains about six cents worth of gold only. It has a value, however, as a curiosity. I am unable to state what that value is.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1897.

Bradford Rhodes, Esq.,
Editor, Banker's Magazine,
No. 78 William Street,
New York City, N.Y.

Sir:

I take pleasure in forwarding you by today's mail proofs of the text of my report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896 up to page 169, as requested in your letter of the 23rd instant.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1897.

Hon. J. H. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that

the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge with the Assistant Treasurer U. S at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Referring to your letters of the 9th and 16th instant, I have to state that copies of the same have been referred to the Civil Service Commission with the request that they will set a time for holding the examinations to fill the places designated. You will be duly notified by the Commission. My impression is that they will give four or five days

notice as to when the examination will take place.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram Confirmed. The amount of your requisition for expenses for the current month will be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer tomorrow by wire.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

February 25, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Department for examination and settlement, an account of the Omaha Bridge Co., N. P. R. R. Railway Co., for the transportation in the Months of September 1896 from Council Bluffs to Omaha of 20,900 lbs of copper, amounting to $4.55 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint 1897. Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-
J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nevada.

+ + + two accounts

+ C. P. R. R. (Southern Pacific Co.) +
June 1896 from San Francisco + Ogden to Reno,
Nevada + Coal &c + $146.15 +
+ Contingent Expenses + 1896. Duplicate B/L herewith.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + two accounts +
Union Pacific + Oregon Short Line + Utah Northern
+ Omaha, Neb., + Boise, Idaho +
+ $7.74 + + Contingent Expenses
+ fiscal year 1897. Duplicate B/L herewith.

February 25, 1897.

Hon. H. W. Cannon,
Chase National Bank,
New York City.

Sir:

I take pleasure in forwarding you by today's mail, a library edition of the 24th Annual Report of the Director of the Mint for 1896, for your personal use.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, to:

Hon. E. O. Leech,
National Union Bank,
No. 32 Nassau Street,
New York City, N. Y.

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February 25, 1897.

A. De Foville, Esq.,
Directeur Des Monnaies de France,
11 quai Conti, Hotel des Monnaies,
Paris, France.

Sir:

In reply to your request of the 6th instant, I take great pleasure in enclosing herewith three copies of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury to Congress, in reference to experiments made with alloys for the minor coinage. A joint resolution is now pending in Congress authorizing further experiments to be made, should this be adopted the result of these experiments will be furnished you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1897.

Hon. John R. Proctor,
President Civil Service Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I enclose herewith for the information of the Commission copy of a letter received from Guy Bryan, Assayer in Charge of the United States Assay Office at St. Louis, Missouri, in reference to the appointment of Mr. William Craig as Melter, skilled workman &c., vice, H. H. Seekamp, resigned. For reasons stated in Mr. Bryan's letter, I have approved the appointment of Mr. Craig for a period of ninety (90) days, or until such time as examination can be held by your Commission. I have notified

Mr. Bryan that when the examination was held, it would be necessary for Mr. Craig, if he desired to retain his position, to take the examination.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1897.

Hon. John R. Proctor,
President, Civil Service Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copies of letters from the Superintendent of the United States Assay Office at New York, under date of February 5th and 16th, in reference to filling vacancies in that institution.

I have notified the Superintendent of this action and that no doubt he would be duly apprised, by you, when these examinations were to be held.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1897.

"The Scovill Manufacturing Co.",
Waterbury, Conn.

Telegram Confirmed.

It is very desirable that corrected medals as per request of eleventh instant should be sent as early as practicable. When can they be expected.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.